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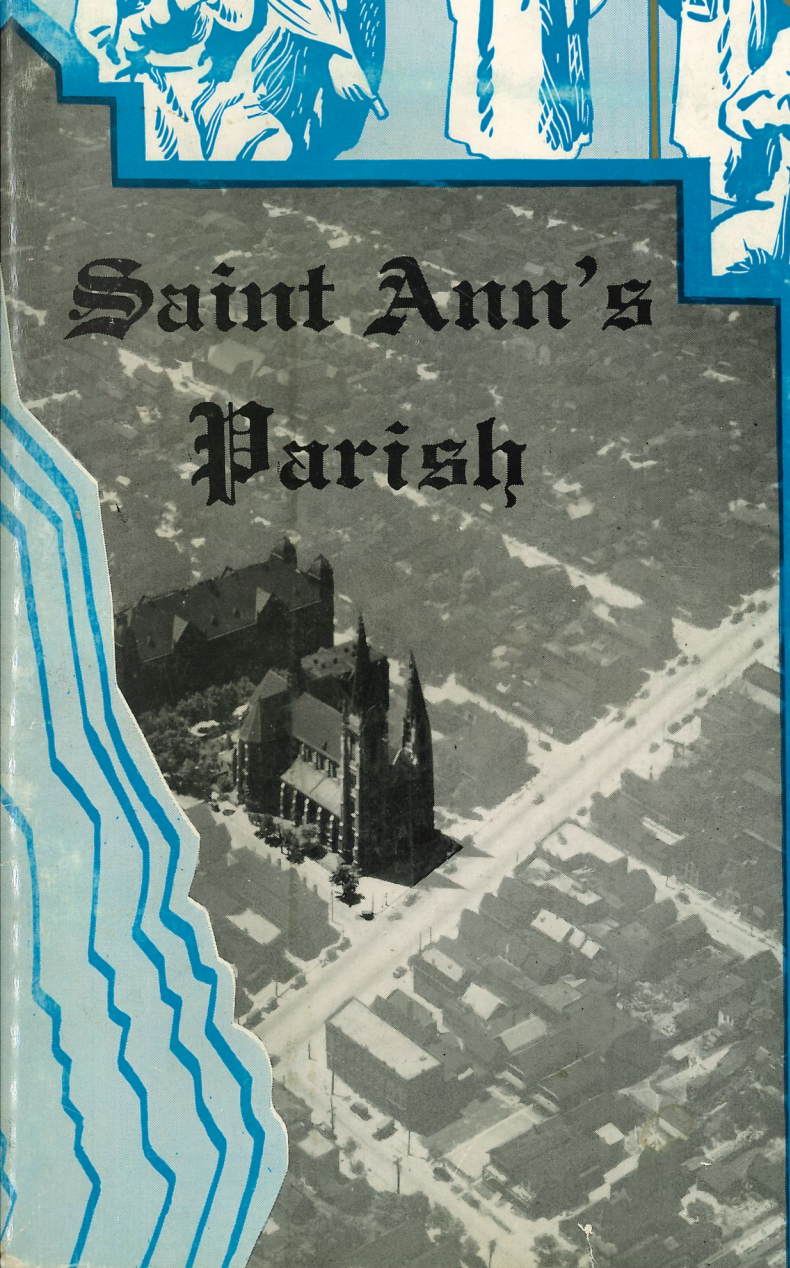
Saint Ann's Parish



1858

1958

✝

PRAYER TO ST. ANN

Glorious St. Ann, filled with compassion for those who invoke thee and with love for those who suffer, heavily laden with the weight of my troubles I cast myself at thy feet and humbly beg of thee to take my present need lovingly under thy care. Vouchsafe to commend it to thy daughter, Our Mother, Thy Blessed Virgin Mary, and to lay my petition before the throne of Jesus. Cease not to intercede for me until my request is granted. Above all things obtain for me the grace of one day beholding my God face to face with thee and Mary and all the saints praising and blessing Him for all eternity. Amen.

✝

SAINT ANN'S CHURCH

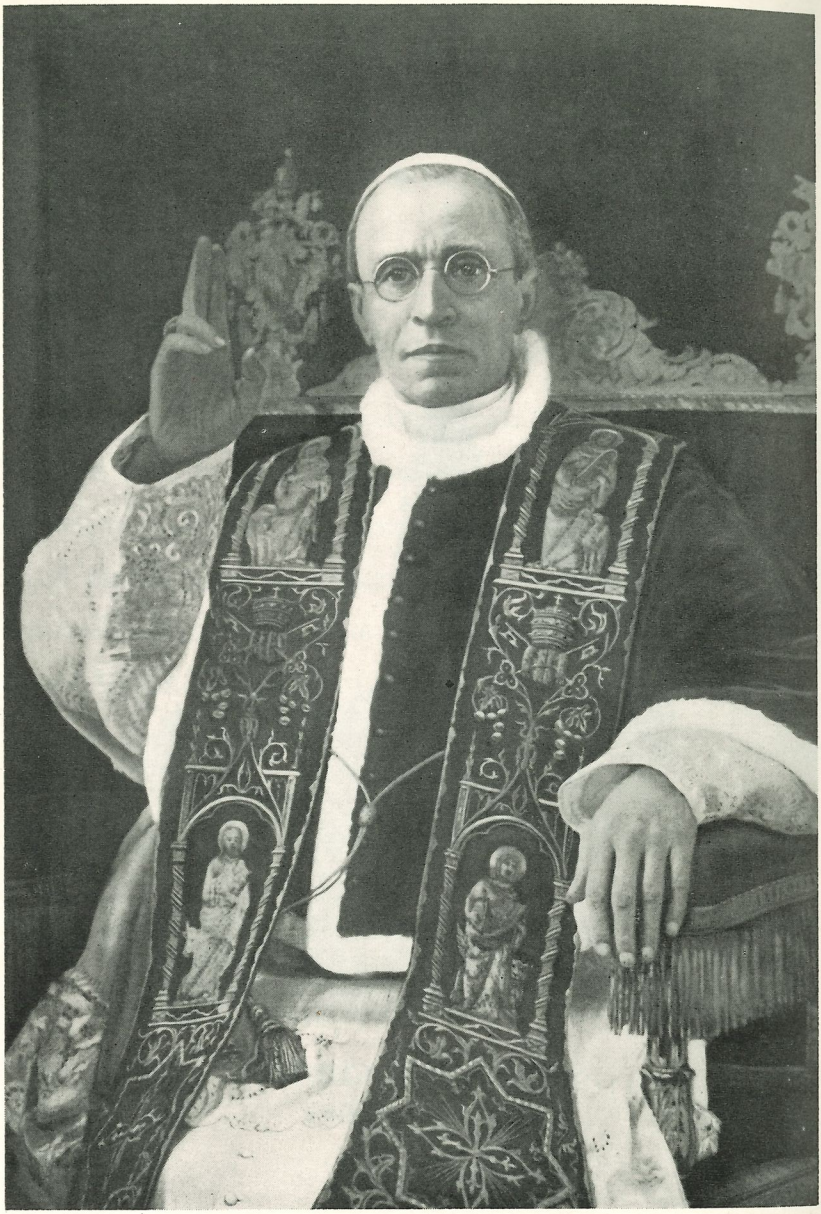
Buffalo, New York

HIS HOLINESS POPE PIUS XII

HIS EXCELLENCY

THE MOST REVEREND JOSEPH A. BURKE, D. D.,

BISHOP OF BUFFALO



HIS HOLINESS POPE PIUS XII

HIS EXCELLENCY

THE MOST REVEREND JOSEPH A. BURKE, D. D.,

BISHOP OF BUFFALO

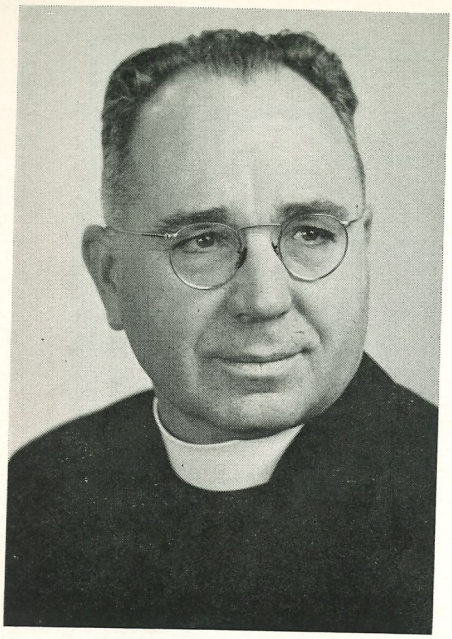
HIS EXCELLENCY

THE MOST REVEREND LEO R. SMITH, D. D.,

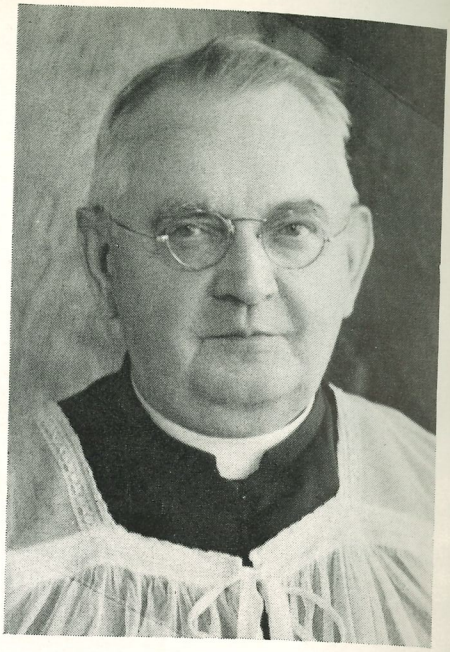
AUXILIARY BISHOP OF BUFFALO

Rev. Jerome J. Kleber, S. J.
Pastor

PRESENT ASSISTANTS

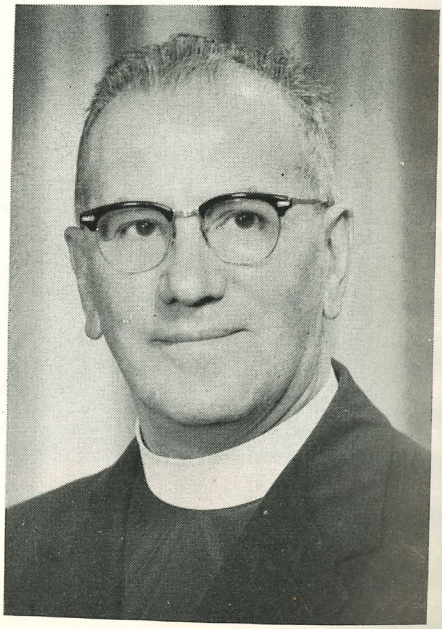


Rev. Aloysius J. Kelsch, S.J.



Rev. Gustave A. Reinsch, S.J.

Rev. William A. Glaser, S.J.



Rev. Florian J. Frankenberger, S.J.

PRESENT ASSISTANTS

Rev. Anthony L. Leisner, S.J.

Rev. Anthony G. Schirmann, S.J.

Rev. Thomas J. Quilty, S.J.

Rev. Gilbert F. Schmid, S.J.

From

The Jesuits and Parishioners at St. Michael's

to

The Jesuits and Parishioners of our sister Church,

St. Ann's

in grateful memory of the past

and

in prayerful hope for the future

Greetings and congratulations

on this happy Centennial

.. The Story of One Hundred Years ..

It was a warm, sunny autumn afternoon as the Bishop and Mr. Watson rode out Batavia Street in the latter's fine horse-drawn carriage. The year was 1857.

First they passed St. Mary's Church, then slowly crossed Jefferson Avenue, named after the President who had died at Monticello thirty-one years before. They rode farther on toward the outskirts of the city, and gradually the houses began to thin out and then disappeared completely. Suddenly Mr. Watson signalled for a halt, swept his right arm in a grand gesture toward the wooded area to the south, and exclaimed: "There it is, Bishop! That's the piece of land I had in mind."

"Yes," replied the Bishop thoughtfully, "it looks like a good spot. And we'll certainly need a new Catholic church out here soon."

* * * * *

This conversation was the beginning of the history of St. Ann's Parish of Buffalo, New York. Now, on the occasion of its first Centennial celebration, the Parish can look back with pride on 100 years of steady growth and achievement, it can smile with amused satisfaction at its own simple origins, and it can thank God with sincere humility for a century of His generous grace and loving protection.

Beginnings of the Parish

In the 1850's Buffalo experienced a heavy influx of new settlers from Europe. The press of the increasing population was felt especially on the eastern outskirts of the city, below Jefferson Avenue, where a large number of German immigrants were settling. As it became more and more impossible for St. Mary's Church at Batavia (later renamed Broadway) and Pine Streets to take adequate care of all its parishioners, the Rt. Rev. John Timon, first Bishop of Buffalo, in 1857 asked the Jesuits to found a new parish farther out on Batavia Street.

Bishop Timon had first brought the Jesuits to Buffalo nine years before, in 1848. They had settled in Williamsville, and then with the generous help and encouragement of the Bishop had founded St. Michael's Parish in 1851. It was the Bishop's fond hope that the Jesuits would also undertake the work of higher education in Buffalo, and although no permanent school was actually opened until 1870 (Canisius College and High School), there were moves made in that direction in the 1850's. One of these was the purchase of some

Congratulations

ST. MARY'S R. C. CHURCH

PINE and BROADWAY

land on the outskirts of the city in 1858, on which site a college and church were to be erected. The intended college never got past the planning stage, but the new church did — and it was placed under the heavenly patronage of St. Ann, mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The neighborhood in which the new parish was to be founded was still largely wilderness, and St. Ann's quickly acquired the name, "The Woodchoppers' Parish." The forest began just east of the property across Emslie Street, and the parishioners made good use of it for firewood. The children loved to gather hickory and butter nuts there, and to go fishing, crabbing and duck-shooting in the many rills and creeks which cut through the woods.

The First Church

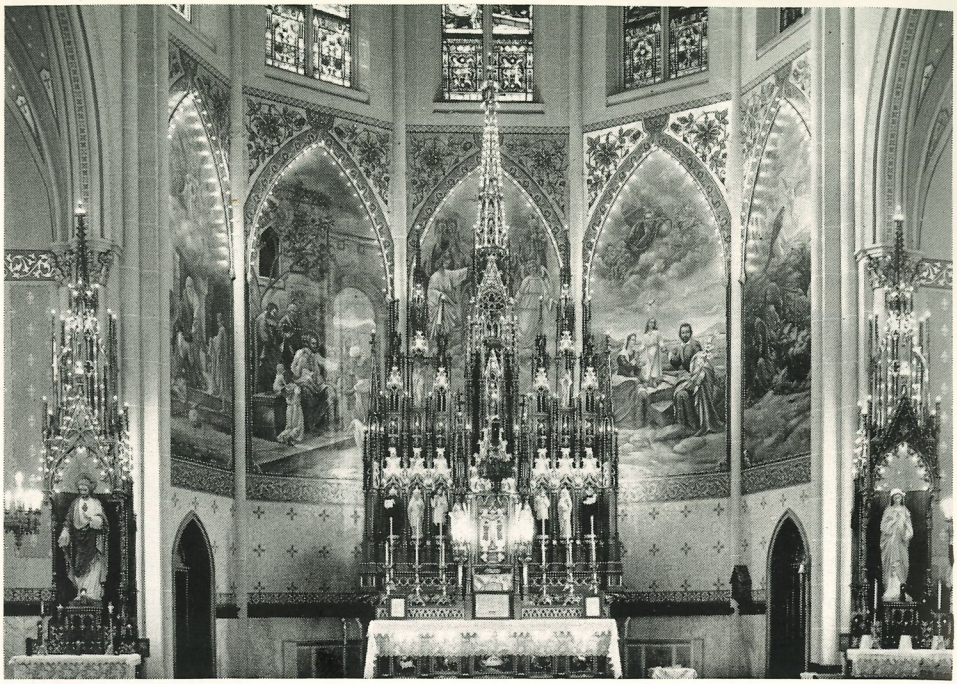
The first St. Ann's Church was built on approximately the site of the present school building. The property began 345 feet south of the so-called "sharp corner" of Emslie and Batavia Street (the southwest corner), and ran 120 feet south along Emslie toward Peckham Street. In the east-west direction it extended the length of the block between Emslie and Watson Streets, thus forming a good-sized rectangle. This property was the gift of a real estate dealer, Mr. Steven Van Rensselaer Watson (of the family after whom Watson Street is named) to Bishop Timon, who in turn gave it to the Society of Jesus for the founding of the new parish.

The Church was erected in the amazing time of slightly over four months. Begun on March 15, 1858, it was completed on June 20 of the same year, on which day it was also blessed and dedicated. It was a long, low, red-brick structure (55 feet wide, 56 feet high and 165 feet long), which served the three functions of church, school, and rectory. Built in a rather simple Romanesque style, it was erected at a final cost of only $7000.

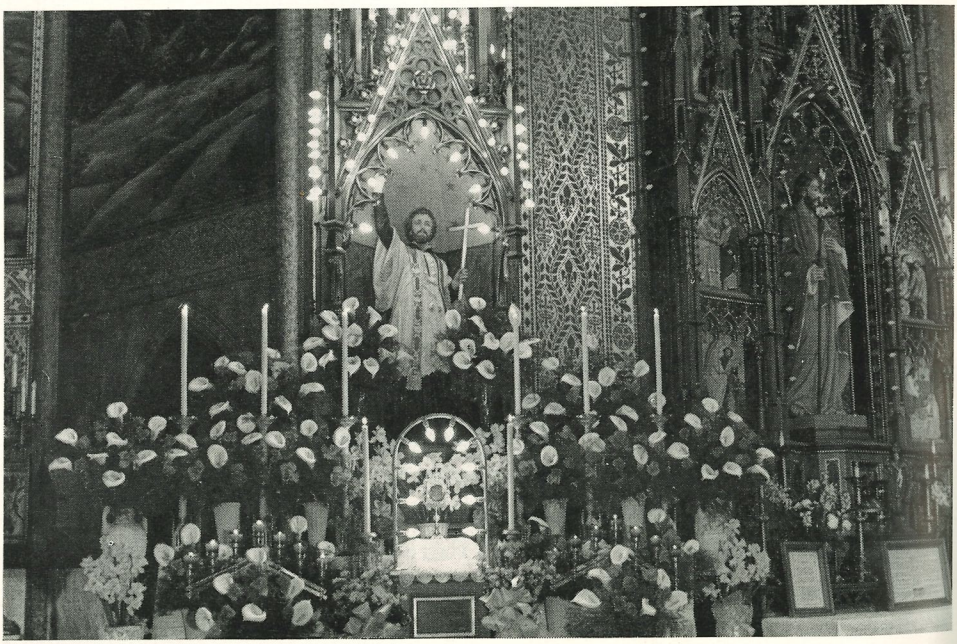
Laying of the Cornerstone

The solemn cornerstone-laying on March 25, 1858 was the first of a long list of celebrations for which St. Ann's has become justly famous. According to the enthusiastic chronicler of the event, nothing more solemn had ever been seen in the city of Buffalo. Ten societies wearing full regalia and headed by their distinctive banners lent color and grandeur to the occasion. They represented the ten existing Catholic parishes of Buffalo at the time: St. Mary's, St. Michael's, St. Louis, St. Peter's, St. Boniface, St. Patrick's, St. Brigid's, St. Joseph's, St. Francis Xavier, and the Old Cathedral.

A great concourse of spectators from all parts of the city and neighboring towns witnessed the impressive ceremony. Two sermons were preached, one in



MAIN ALTAR
and Shrines of Sacred Heart and Blessed Mother



SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER SHRINE

German by Father William Deiters, Pastor of St. Louis Church, the other in English by Father Henry Giesen, C.SS.R., Pastor of St. Mary's Church. The priest who performed the ceremony was Fr. Lucas Caveng, S.J., Pastor of St. Michael's Church, under whose leadership the second Jesuit parish in the city of Buffalo was inaugurated.

"Alles auf Deutsch"

From the very beginning St. Ann's was an exclusively German parish. Thus it was something of an anomaly that the priests in charge were members of the New York-Canada Mission of the French Province of the Society of Jesus. To remedy this, many of the Fathers assigned to St. Ann's were German or Alsatian priests who had entered the Society of Jesus in France, or else members of the German Province loaned to the French Province for this specific work. But as the neighborhood continued to grow, it became increasingly clear that the French Province could not supply enough German-speaking priests to take care of it.

The logical change came in 1869, when the Jesuit installations in Buffalo were detached from the New York-Canada Mission of the French Province and put under the jurisdiction of the German Province, with the new title, "Buffalo Mission of the Province of Germany." The Mission extended westward from Buffalo as far as South Dakota and Wyoming, where it had stations among the Indians. It ceased to exist as an independent unit in 1907, when Buffalo became part of the Maryland-New York Province, with the midwestern houses going to the Missouri Province, and the Indian Missions to the California-Rocky Mountain Mission.

The New Church

The number of families in the new St. Ann's Parish increased rapidly, so that the need of a larger church began to be felt in the early 1870's. To finance the project an extra weekly collection was taken up each Sunday, and lots were purchased so that the church could be built facing Broadway. But the enthusiasm of both the Fathers and the parishioners was rudely dampened when the architect, a Mr. Himpel of New York, named the estimated cost: $135,000. The special collections were called off, and serious thought began to be given to the idea of merely enlarging the old church.

In 1875 Father William Roether, S.J., was named Pastor of St. Ann's, and it was thanks to his energetic spirit that the project of a new church was revived and carried through to a happy conclusion. The weekly collection was reinstated and there was soon enough money on hand to allow the beginning

Congratulations

on your

ANNIVERSARY

ST. JOHN BERCHMAN'S

ALUMNI

of the new edifice. A quarry in Lockport was rented for two years to provide stone, and in an impressive ceremony on August 25, 1878, the cornerstone was laid. It is still clearly visible to the left of the main portal of the church.

Another Cornerstone Celebration

This cornerstone-laying outdid that of twenty years before by adding a parade to the ceremony. Twenty-six banners, representing societies of St. Ann's and several other parishes, were borne in the half-hour-long procession that made its way down Broadway from Washington to Emslie Street. The St. Ann's Commandery of the Knights of St. John, founded in 1874 during the second rectorship of Father Ignatius Bellwalder, S.J., lent an air of military pomp and splendor in their shining uniforms. They were surpassed only by the gorgeously accoutred contingent of Knights from the parent Commandery in Rochester. At the end of the parade came several carriages conveying civic and religious dignitaries, including Bishop Stephan Ryan and Mayor Solomon Scheu.

All along the line of march houses were adorned with bunting, garlands and flowers. From roofs and windows fluttered American flags and Papal banners. Some 25,000 spectators cheered and applauded as the parade filed by under the numerous floral arches spanning Broadway. After the parade Bishop Ryan himself laid the cornerstone. There were again speeches in two languages, Father John Lessmann, S.J. of the St. Ann's community preaching an appropriate sermon in German, and Bishop Ryan delivering a brief address in English.

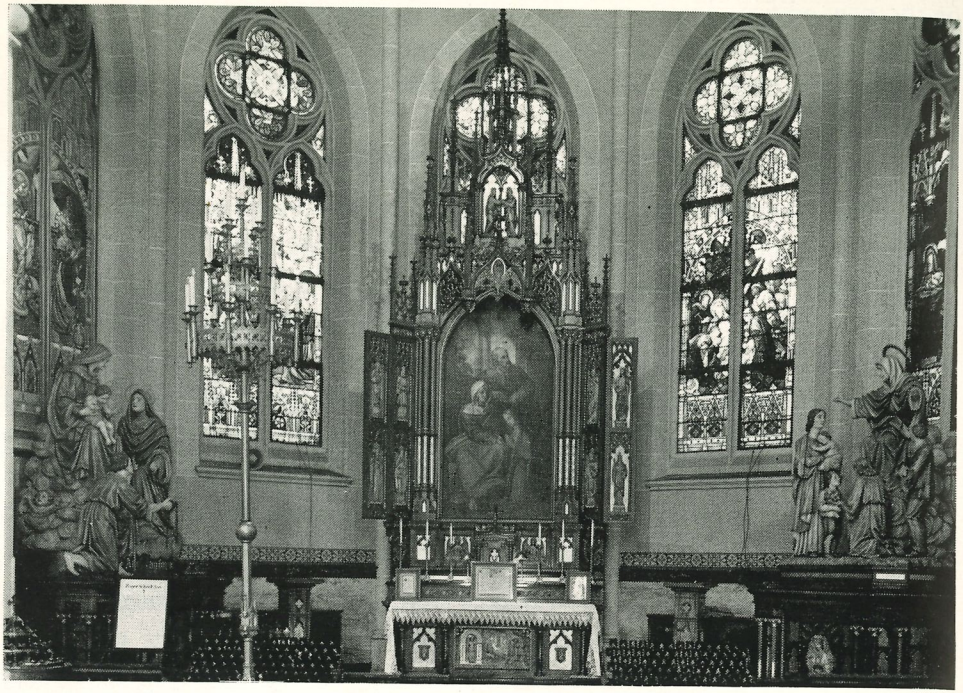
Eight Years to Build

Despite the enthusiasm manifest at the cornerstone-laying, construction of the second church proceeded at a slow pace. Building operations were interrupted several times for lack of funds, as the parish had adopted the cautious principle not to build any more than they could pay for with cash on hand. As a result, the church was eight years in building, but when it was finally completed it was entirely free of debt.

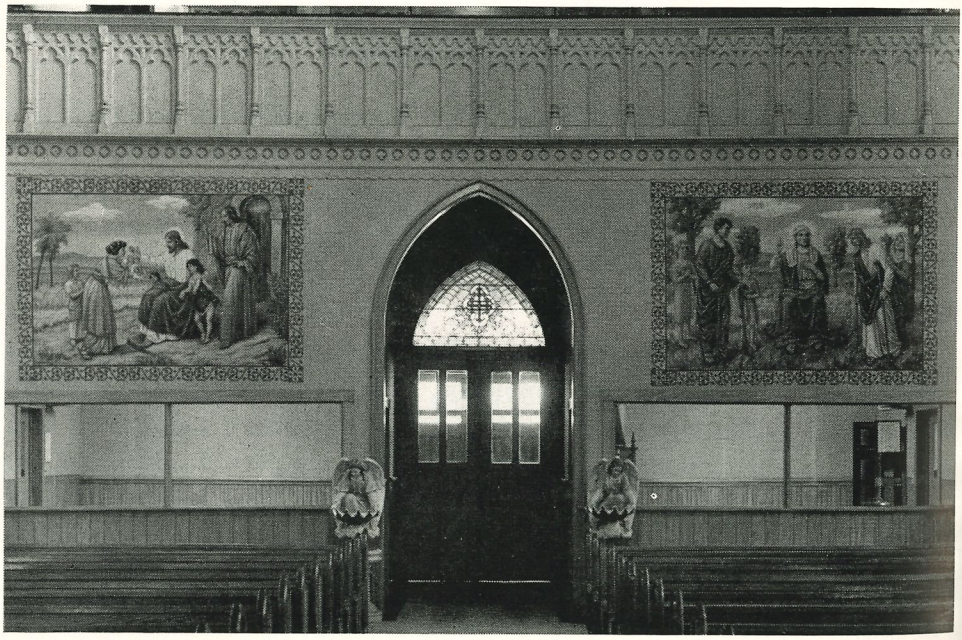
The second St. Ann's Church was blessed, dedicated and consecrated by Bishop Ryan on the day of its completion, May 16, 1886. Built in a tasteful 19th-century Gothic style, the sacred structure has become a well-known landmark of East Buffalo. Both its enduring gracefulness and present sturdy condition are a tribute to the workmanship of its builders.

The New School

The next significant addition to the parish buildings was the new school, erected in 1895 during the rectorship of Father Joseph Kreusch, S.J. This was



SAINT ANN'S SHRINE



INFANTS' ROOM and USHERS' ROOM

St. Ann's third school building. The first had quickly outgrown its quarters in the combined church-school-rectory built in 1858, and a new separate school building had been put up in 1863, on the Broadway side of the original church. At first this building had housed all classes, but upon completion of the second church in 1886 the girls' classes had been moved over into the old church, leaving the school building occupied only by the boys.

By the mid-1890's the population of the parish had again outgrown the available school facilities. At a meeting of the men of the parish in 1894, the demand for a new school building was urgently expressed. But since there was only a small sum of money for this purpose on hand, a second meeting was called to decide whether it would be advisable to defer the undertaking until the building fund amounted to $20,000, or begin construction with the mere $10,000 then on hand. This generation of St. Ann's parishioners decisively abandoned the "cash and carry" principle of its forebears, and the meeting decided amid a storm of applause to begin building as soon as possible, cash available or not.

On April 26, 1895 work was begun on tearing down the old church and a week later the school building erected in 1863 was also given over to the wreckers. The pupils finished out the school year in improvised classrooms in the church. Although the new school was erected with remarkable speed (cornerstone laid June 9, 1895, first-floor classrooms occupied October 7, 1895), it was not ready for the beginning of the fall term, and so classes continued to be held for the first two months in the church. The solemn blessing of the imposing new structure was given by Bishop Ryan on November 15, 1895 in a ceremony held in the spacious upper hall.

The Teachers of St. Ann's

St. Ann's School has always been blessed in having outstandingly competent and dedicated teachers. In the first year of its existence, 1858-59, there was only one teacher for all classes, Mr. Henry Lehmann. The following year his wife joined him on the staff, taking charge of the instruction of the younger children.

The first religious teachers came in 1860 in answer to a request from the Pastor, Father Bernard Fritsch, S.J. They were the Nardin Sisters, more properly called "Daughters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary." At first they commuted every day to St. Ann's from the old Nardin Academy on South Division Street and after April, 1862 from the new Academy at Franklin and Church Streets. In 1865 Father Fritsch acquired a house on Emslie Street, which he put at the disposal of the Sisters as a residence.

Congratulations

on your

100th Anniversary

ST. ANN'S

HOLY NAME SOCIETY

Mr. Joseph Kiefer

In 1872 Mr. Joseph Kiefer took over the instruction of the older boys. He remained at this post until 1900, winning the esteem and affection of both his pupils and the parishioners. In addition to his teaching talent, he was also an accomplished musician, and so he added to his duties in the classroom the position of organist in the Church and director of the Church Choir. These two latter posts he continued to fill with laudable devotedness and remarkable success until his death on March 17, 1914.

In 1874 came a change in the teaching staff, when a group of Franciscan nuns arrived from Germany to replace the Nardins who had toiled so well since 1860. This was an effect of the general changeover of control of St. Ann's from the French Province of the Jesuits to the German Province which had occurred a few years before.

The Franciscan Sisters have remained at St. Ann's until the present day, and have consistently given an example of complete devotion and dedication to their teaching apostolate. They are housed in a convent facing Emslie Street, constructed in 1885 under the rectorship of Father William Roether, S.J.

Break-off of New Parishes

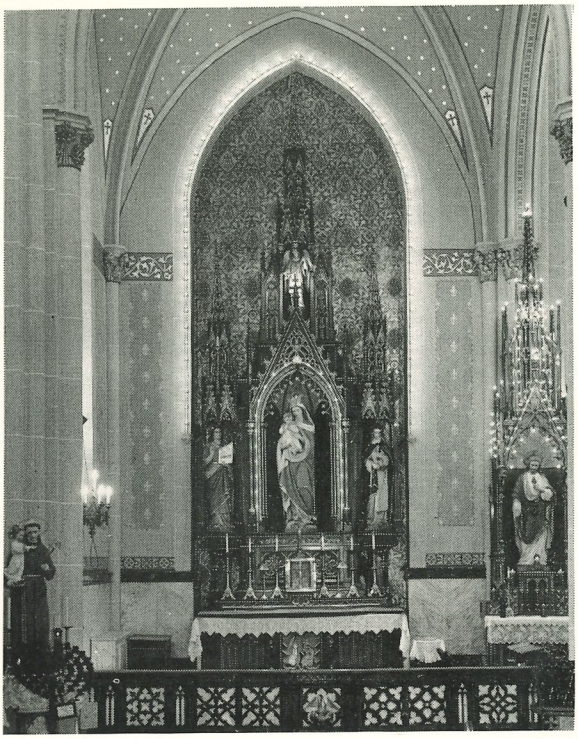
The steady growth of St. Ann's Parish has been part of a general increase of the Catholic population of Buffalo and of the city itself. This is clearly reflected in the continual breaking off of parts of the St. Ann parish territory and the founding of new parishes.

When the first St. Ann's Church was built in 1858, the parish included all the territory east of Jefferson Avenue as far as the city limits (Fillmore Avenue, then called Wall Street), between Delavan Avenue on the north and Lake Erie on the south. Six other parishes were gradually carved out of this large area and what lay beyond it: St. Mary of Sorrows in 1870, Sacred Heart in 1875, St. Agnes in 1883, St. Mary Magdalene's in 1890, Holy Name in 1896, and St. Joachim's in 1905.

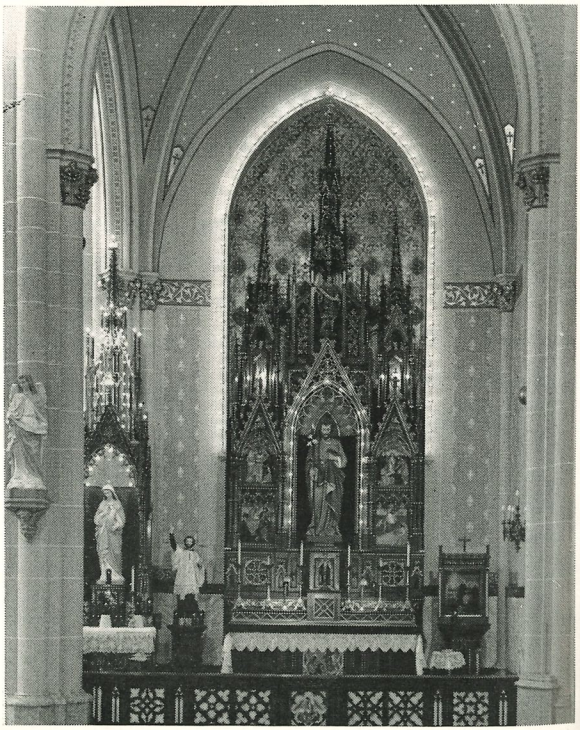
St. Joachim's had begun in 1902 as a mission church of St. Ann's, for the convenience of parishioners living at a great distance from the mother-church. It was the only mission church St. Ann's ever had, and was given over to the diocesan clergy three years after its inception.

Golden Jubilee, 1908

In 1908 St. Ann's was fifty years old. The Parish celebrated its Golden Jubilee for three days, from August 23 to 25, being honored by the presence



BLESSED
VIRGIN
ALTAR



SAINT
JOSEPH
ALTAR

of two bishops, the Rt. Rev. Charles Colton, Bishop of Buffalo, and the Rt. Rev. Joseph Koudelka, then Auxiliary Bishop of Cleveland and later Bishop of Superior.

The festivities were ushered in on the evening of August 22 by a prolonged and solemn pealing of the Church bells. Each of the three mornings of the celebration a Pontifical High Mass was sung in the Church. On the evening of the first day an entertainment was given in the school hall, consisting of a concert by the Church Choir and a series of "living pictures" representing scenes from the history of the Parish and enacted by the children of the school.

The children's labors were rewarded on the two following afternoons by grand outdoor celebrations: first a parade by the children themselves and the Jubilee Committee through the gaily festooned streets of the Parish, and then a picnic in St. Ann's Park south of the school until ten o'clock in the evening. Needless to say, the adults of the Parish, plus friends and well-wishers from all over the city, joined heartily in the evening festivities.

The "St. Anna Bote"

In connection with the Parish's Golden Jubilee, a special edition of the "St. Anna Bote," or "St. Ann's Messenger," was published. The "Bote" had started out in 1901, under the rectorship of Father Theodore Hegemann, S.J., as a modest four-page monthly parish magazine. It met with a very encouraging response and in 1905 could boast of forty pages.

The special Jubilee Edition of the "Bote" ran to over 100 pages. It contained an excellent summary of the first fifty years of St. Ann's history, together with brief sketches of the many Parish sodalities and other organizations. It was the work of Mr. Joseph Ehnes, one of the Parish Consultors and Secretary of the Golden Jubilee Committee.

The "St. Anna Bote" continued to function for over thirty years as a significant bond of unity among the parishioners, besides being a valuable source of information and entertainment. Unfortunately financial difficulties forced its suspension during the depression years, and its place is now filled by the simple weekly parish bulletin. The final issue of the "Bote" appeared in December, 1932.

The Second Fifty Years

The second half of St. Ann's first century has been a period of gradual change and consolidation. No new buildings have been added since the erection of the new school in 1895, and thus the external picture of church, school, rectory, convent and school-yards has remained more or less the same. There

Compliments

ST. ANN'S MEN'S CLUB

Organized

May 19, 1915

were, however, the inevitable internal changes dictated by growth and adaptation to new historical situations.

During the rectorship of Father George Krim, S.J. (from 1909 to 1913), a new syllabus was introduced in the school, in conformity with the requirements of the New York State Board of Regents, Military uniforms and drill were added to the schedule for the boys of the upper grades. Instead of the prevailing system of classes being taught partly in English and partly in German, English now became the exclusive language of instruction.

Cultural Innovations

Father Krim was also anxious to promote the cultural life of the Parish. To this end he established the St. Ann's Musical Society, which he put under the care of Father Gustave Reinsch, S.J. The Society had four sections: a thirty-piece brass band, an orchestra of twenty-two members, a twenty-eight-voice choral group aromatically called the "Liederkranz," and a Zither and Mandolin Club of six players.

The Parish Dramatic Circle was under the personal direction of Father Krim, who raised its membership to 200 enthusiastic actors. Under his management many outstanding plays were staged with great success, both artistically and financially. He also installed new stage fixtures, scenery, a beautiful drop curtain, and a switchboard controlling the lights of the stage and auditorium.

St. Ann's on the March

St. Ann's won city-wide recognition in June, 1912 at the cornerstone-laying of the New Cathedral. According to the unanimous verdict of the three Buffalo papers, the "Buffalo Express," the "Courier," and the "Evening News," the 600-strong St. Ann's contingent decisively stole the show in the parade preceding the ceremony. Besides having the sprightliest marchers, it had the only float in the parade, in which all the parishes of the city participated.

At the head of the St. Ann's section marched the Parish Brass Band, followed by the spirited Fife and Drum Corps. Behind the musicians filed the first division, consisting of nearly 300 white-capped and blue-coated men. The second division was formed by the St. Ann's Cadets, 125-strong, wearing blue uniforms and brown leggings, and carrying rifles.

Next followed the float, occupied by boys and girls of the school costumed like colonial pioneers and holding aloft signs labelled "Religion" and "Patriotism." Two hundred men in canvas hats and white shirts brought up the rear. Loud and continuous applause greeted the St. Ann's contingent all along the route of the parade

BEST WISHES

ST. ANN'S C. Y. C.

There is gold and a multitude of jewels: but the lips of knowledge are a precious vessel.

The School of Business

Another important addition to the educational facilities offered by the Parish was made in 1917, when St. Ann's Commercial School, later renamed St. Ann's School of Business, was opened. It was founded by Father Joseph Kirkmyer, S.J., then Pastor of St. Ann's, to give the graduates of the Grammar School the opportunity of securing a two-year business education at a moderate rate of tuition. Enrolment was later opened to graduates of any grammar school, either Catholic or public. From 1917 to 1941 both boys and girls were admitted, after 1941 only girls.

The School of Business was located in the Grammar School building, and instruction was given by qualified Franciscan Sisters of St. Ann's Convent. The Jesuit Fathers also gave weekly religious instruction. Beginning with twenty-four pupils, the School grew steadily until its enrolment surpassed 200. In 1949 it was incorporated into the diocesan high-school system, and classes were transferred to Bishop McMahon High School. The Franciscan Sisters continued to be in charge of instruction and the curriculum was enlarged to a full four-year commercial course.

The St. Rose of Lima Home

In November, 1918, to meet the needs of the large numbers of young women moving into Buffalo to seek employment, Father Herman Adelmann, S.J., then Pastor of St. Ann's, founded the St. Rose of Lima Home for Working Girls. A boarding house on Adams Street was made available through the generosity of Miss Mary Endres.

At first the Home was in charge of a member of the St. Rose of Lima Club, a Parish organization. In 1927 it was given over to the care of the Franciscan Sisters, who were succeeded four years later by the Missionary Sisters of the Divine Child. In addition to operating the St. Rose of Lima Home, these nuns assumed the religious instruction of the children of the Parish attending public schools, assisted the Fathers in taking the parish census, and also engaged in social work, visiting poor families and encouraging negligent Catholics in the practice of their religion.

By 1940, the Home had ceased to fulfil the purpose for which it was intended, and had become an intolerable financial burden for the Parish. It was accordingly turned over to the Diocese, to whom it had been willed by Miss Endres, and was sold.

St. Ann's on Wheels

The year 1941 saw the birth of the an institution which has made the

Compliments

of

P. T. A.

name of St. Ann's a by-word with the youth of the entire city of Buffalo. A sturdy new floor, suitable for roller skating, was laid in the upper hall of the school, and the career of "St. Ann's Roller Rink" was launched. It was in the tradition of the Parish to provide healthy recreation for the young, a tradition which went back at least as far as 1906, when Father Victorine Scheppach, S.J., had purchased a merry-go-round and an organ for use at parish picnics and other entertainments.

After the inauguration of the roller rink, the clattering rumble of skate-wheels was heard regularly five times a week, with parties every Friday, Saturday and Sunday evening for high-school students, and Saturday and Sunday afternoon for grammar school children. But it was not only the young who found recreation and enjoyment in the St. Ann's rink. During World War II scores of servicemen were among the pleasantly puffing patrons. The rink has also served for PTA nights, for parties of various clubs, stores, and business firms of the city, and for the Boy and Girl Scouts.

Due to the waning interest in skating among high-school students, there is now only one regular weekly high-school night, on Friday, instead of the three evenings of former years. The grade school pupils still fill the hall with their chatter and clatter on Saturday and Sunday afternoons.

Credit for the development and success of the rink must go to Father Joseph Taylor, S.J., the Pastor who put in the special roller-skating floor, and Father William Glaser, S.J., who has been in charge of the rink since its opening night. Father Glaser has been assisted by Father Florian Frankenberger, S.J., parish priest of St. Ann's, and Father James Ball, S.J., formerly of St. Ann's and now stationed at St. Michael's. Their self-sacrificing care and interest have been in large measure responsible for the unprecedented success and popularity the rink has enjoyed throughout the seventeen years of its existence.

The Child Care Center

During World War II St. Ann's Child Care Center was established to provide facilities for children whose parents were both employed in defense plants. It was set up in 1943 as a project of the Federal Works Administration, in order to release more men and women for war work. Father James Ball, S.J., parish priest at St. Ann's, was in charge of the project.

Children from ages 3 to 14 were admitted to the Center, where they could spend the entire day, from 6:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. On school days, the older children were at the Child Care Center only outside class hours, but on Saturdays and during the summer months they spent their whole day there. The daily program included supervised games, hobby classes, instruction in such

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things as gymnastics, tumbling, handicrafts, dancing, etc. Competent personnel were always on hand to take charge of feeding the children and to provide medical care for their cuts, scratches and bruises.

After the War, Bishop John O'Hara was very interested in continuing the successful work of the Center, and so the Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Buffalo took over its support. Monsignor Eugene A. Loftus also took a special interest in the Center and helped greatly to further its fruitful work. When it was finally closed in 1950, the record showed that over 1000 children had been cared for.

Alterations and Renovations

Numerous repairs and alterations have been made in the interior of the Church over the years. Electric lights were installed in 1904, being used for the first time on Easter Sunday of that year. In 1907 the Church received a thorough renovation in preparation for the Golden Jubilee of the parish. Under the current Pastor, Father Victorine Scheppach, S.J., the interior was completely repainted in fresco by Mr. Louis Frohe, the altars and pulpit were varnished and gilded by Mr. A. Deschermeier, and the vestibule was decorated by Mr. Joseph Schneggenburger.

Father Scheppach took great pride in the large number of paintings and statues with which he filled the Church. He put up a total of twenty-one large pictures, each a copy of a famous original, and twenty-six statues. Every sizeable wall-space was covered by a painting and every available nook was filled by some piece of statuary. Ten of the statues were fastened to the pillars in the central aisle at mid-height.

The next renovation of the Church occurred in 1914, under Father Peter Leonard, S.J. He had the ceiling and walls thoroughly cleaned, the pews re-varnished, the organ repaired and enriched with additional stops and provided with a powerful electric blower. By 1928, the year of the Golden Jubilee of the cornerstone-laying of the second church, the edifice was ready for another face-lifting, and so the Pastor, Father Herman Maeckel, S.J., had the paintings and statues cleaned, the altars regilded, and the walls and ceiling redecorated.

Further Improvements

In the late 1930's, Father Paul Conniff, S.J. made further improvements in the Church, including the installation of loudspeakers. Under his rectorship the shrine of the Jesuit Martyrs of North America was built and set up in its present position. In 1939 he removed the worn-out carpet that covered the floor of the sanctuary, and thus brought to light the beautiful marble floor that had

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been laid when the Church was built. He also eliminated the old carpets from the oaken altar steps and had the wood cleaned and revarnished to bring out its natural beauty.

On the exterior of the Church, Father Conniff had the roof repaired and both the towers repointed. Since the mechanism of the tower clock was antiquated and a menace to life, he had a new up-to-date system installed, by which the clock is wound automatically. Before this automatization, Brother Rudolf Kiel, S.J., the faithful porter in the Rectory from 1892 to 1936, had clambered up the high tower once every week for forty-four years to wind the clock by hand.

The next Pastor, Father Joseph Taylor, S.J., carried on the renovating zeal of his predecessor. One of his first acts was to clear the Church of much superfluous statuary, which in the opinion of many interfered with the simple lines of the architecture. He had the mechanism of the loudspeakers improved and added two movable microphones, one at the communion rail, the other at the altar. In 1942 the walls and ceilings of the sanctuary, transept and side aisles were washed by experts, and comfortable kneelers were installed throughout the Church.

Centennial Spruce-up

A major renovation of both Church and School has been undertaken in the past year in preparation for the centennial celebration of September 21-28, 1958. Father Jerome Kleber, S.J., present Pastor of St. Ann's, has spared no effort in realizing his desire to make the buildings as imposing and resplendent as on the days they were opened.

The work was begun on August 1, 1957 under the direction of the D'Arcangelo Art Center. Since then the walls and ceilings of the Church have been washed and painted in much brighter hues, all murals and statues cleaned and retouched, the benches cleaned and revarnished, and the tiling on the floors renewed. A welcome innovation for young mothers is the sound-proof, glass-enclosed "Baby Room" (also called by many the "Bawl Room"), constructed under the choir-loft near the Broadway entrance. Opposite this is a new large Ushers' Room. Lavatories have been put in, and a new boiler installed to improve the heating of the Church in winter.

The electric lighting in the Church has been greatly improved by changing the wiring in such a way that the overhead hanging lamps can now provide all the light necessary for reading. The old goose-neck lights on the pews have been replaced by starlight lamps, which afford a much more decorative effect. Nineteen new spotlights illuminate every corner of the sanctuary, bringing out to better advantage the beauty of the murals and of the carved altar.

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The New Statue

On the exterior of the Church, the front façade is to be enhanced by the enshrinement of a statue of St. Ann and the Child Mary in the central niche over the doors. This is a centennial gift of the St. Ann's Men's Club. The statue will be flanked by two kneeling angels, donated by Mrs. Edward Habermehl in memory of her deceased husband, who was one of the charter members of the Men's Club.

The School has also received the centennial sprucing-up treatment. The cornices have been repaired, and all floors have been tiled. The classrooms have been brightened by a new coat of paint, in cheerful shades of blue and grey. A new boiler has been installed, together with hot-air blowers to complement the radiators in the spacious upper hall. The stage in the auditorium has been repainted and a new track for the stage curtain laid. The entire auditorium has been rewired, and a sitting room added for the skaters in the rear of the hall. In the north schoolyard, the old brick walls have been removed and new cyclone wire fences substituted, thus making the yard more easily accessible for parking and for use as a neighborhood playground.

Jubilees and Jubilees

The past fifty years have been marked by many jubilee celebrations for St. Ann's and the men and organizations connected with it. The Silver Jubilee of the opening of the new Church was commemorated in a week-long celebration in June of 1911, and the Golden Jubilee of the cornerstone-laying occurred in 1928. In connection with the latter event a fine souvenir booklet was published, containing historical articles in both English and German, plus descriptions of several of the altars and the stained-glass windows in the Church.

Various Parish organizations also came in for their share of jubilees. The Golden Jubilee of all four Sodalities (Men's, Young Men's, Married Ladies', Young Ladies') was celebrated in May of 1921, and ten years later the Married Men's Sodality commemorated its Diamond Jubilee. The St. John Berchmans Altar Boys' Alumni Society celebrated its Silver Jubilee in 1931 and its Golden Jubilee in 1956. The Knights of St. John, Commandery No. 13, commemorated their Golden Jubilee in 1924 and their seventy-fifth anniversary in 1949.

Another type of jubilee celebration was introduced by Father Joseph Taylor, S.J., in 1941. On June 1 of that year some 200 men and women received Communion in a body to solemnize the fiftieth anniversary of their First Holy Communion. This inspiring ceremony was repeated the following year with sixty jubilarians participating, but was dropped during the latter war years. It will take place again this year as part of the centennial celebration. Some 200

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First Communicants of 1908 and before are to receive Communion together in their old Parish Church on September 14, 1958.

Good and Faithful Servants

Several priests and nuns of St. Ann's have also been privileged to celebrate the completion of long periods in God's service. In 1930 Father Patrick Cormican, S.J., who had come to St. Ann's the previous year as the first Irish assistant in the history of the Parish, celebrated the Golden Jubilee of his entrance into the Society of Jesus, and ten years later his Diamond Jubilee. Two other Golden Jubilarians among the Jesuit community were Father Henry Nelles, S.J. in 1931 and Father John Stedler, S.J. in 1943.

Sisters of St. Ann's Convent who have celebrated jubilees are

Sister M. Leonie	Sister M. Angelica
Sister M. Dominica	Sister M. Leocadia
Sister M. Vincentia	Sister M. Raingardis
Sister M. Lydia	Sister M. Carola
Sister M. Sylvester	Sister M. Auxilia
Sister M. Aloysia	Sister M. Regis
Sister M. Loyola	Sister M. Amabilis
Sister M. Sebastian	Sister M. Ethel
Sister M. Odelia	Sister M. Hilda

The dean of all St. Ann's jubilarians has been the beloved Father Gustave Reinsch, S.J. The Silver Jubilee of his ordination to the priesthood, celebrated in 1929, was only the first of several such occasions for Father Reinsch. In 1941 he celebrated the Golden, and in 1951 the Diamond Anniversary of his entrance into the Society of Jesus. In 1954 the parishioners of St. Ann's and his innumerable friends and admirers throughout the city feted him on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of his ordination and his assignment to St. Ann's Parish. On October 4 of the current year, this zealous and devoted priest of God will enter upon his fifty-fifth consecutive year of service at St. Ann's.

The Challenge of 1958-2058

Having completed its first 100 years, St. Ann's now joins the ranks of the great centuries-old churches of Europe and America. It belongs to a noble and venerable family, a family including such names as the Cathedrals of Paris,

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For a full century St. Ann's has served the spiritual needs of the people of Western New York. Thousands look upon it as their intellectual home, because in its school they received their first inklings of the four R's: the three academic R's, plus religion. And many more thousands call it their spiritual home, because in its church they have prayed and worshipped, have heard the word of God, have found the solace of the confessional, and have been fed with the Divine Bread of Life. For 100 years St. Ann's has brought the comfort, the hope, the warmth and love of Christ Himself to thousands of seeking souls.

The centennial year of 1958 finds St. Ann's at another decisive turning-point in its history. Modern conditions have brought new problems. The trend to suburban living has robbed the Parish of many of the old families who had been its staunchest pillars of support. Other families have moved in to replace the old, thus presenting the bold challenge to weld these new inhabitants into a unified, thriving, Catholic city parish, into a true earthly counterpart of the Kingdom of Heaven toward which all men are called to strive.

How will St. Ann's Parish meet this challenge? The answer is hidden from us now, locked in the secret counsels of God's Loving Providence. But for anyone who can read the book of history and learn its lessons, there are many signs to justify optimism. Dynamic and foresighted leadership, dedication and devotion on the part of the parish priests and nuns, the unflagging energy and resourcefulness of the parish organizations, the unfailing loyalty of parishioners old and new — all these have made St. Ann's the outstanding parish that it has been in its first 100 years. With God's Grace they will continue to make it outstanding as it faces the challenge of its second century of service to God, Country, and the Catholics of the City of Buffalo.

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SUPERIORS, PASTORS AND ASSISTANTS IN THE HISTORY OF ST. ANN'S

Fr. Louis Caveng, S.J. (1858) — Built combination Church, Rectory and School facing Emslie Street on site of present school. Building started on March 15th; cornerstone laid on March 25th; building was finished and dedicated on June 20th, 1858. First Solemn High Mass in honor of St. Ann sung by Fr. Caveng on July 26th, 1858.

Fr. Joseph Vetter, S.J. (1858-1860) — Founded St. Joachim Society (religious and benevolent), St. Ann Altar Society, League of Sacred Heart; introduced routine religious exercises and services. First Confirmation held in St. Ann's Parish by Bishop Timon. Furnished Church with bell, stations, candlesticks, Monstrance, organ, three Altars and nine oil paintings. (All trace of these paintings at present have vanished) Well known for his eloquent oratory.

Fr. Bernard Fritsch, S.J. (1860-1866) — Established Happy Death Society, St. Aloysius Society for boys; St. George Society for young men and St. John Society for the benefit of sick members of the Parish. Bought oil painting of St. Ann from Munich. Picture still adorns Shrine of St. Ann and is still an object of wonder to visitors. Originally used behind Main Altar of first Church. Engaged the Daughters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (The Nardins) to teach the girls in the Parochial School. Bought five lots contiguous to old Church on Emslie Street and built a school building for boys on site of parking yard next to present school building.

Fr. John Blettner, S.J. (1866-1870) — Learned theologian. Children in school now numbered 600 and taught by six lay-teachers and four Sisters.

Fr. Ignatius Bellwalder, S.J. (1870-1871) — First Pastor of St. Ann totally independent of St. Michael's Parish. Established canonically the Sodalities of Young Men, the Men, the Young Ladies and the Married Ladies.

Fr. Peter Spicher, S.J. (1871-1872) — Established the Society of Holy Childhood among the pupils of school. Bought lots on Broadway and Emslie as the site of the present Church and Shrine of St. Ann. Famous for his thundering sermons.

Fr. Ignatius Bellwalder S.J., (1872-1875) — obtained the services of Mr. Joseph Kiefer as organist, choirmaster and schoolmaster and still remembered as one of the truly

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great laymen of the parish of St. Ann. Engaged the Franciscan Sisters to supplant the Nardins. Growth of school was so rapid as to be beyond possibility of supply by the Nardins and teachers of German were needed. Opened school of "Hydraulics" and started plans for erection of present Church. Plans called for staggering sum of $135,000 and plans were made instead to enlarge old Church on Emslie Street. The 13th Commandery of Knights of St. John (the first in Buffalo) was established on September 4th, 1874.

Fr. William Roether, S.J. (1875-1888) — Length of service at St. Ann surpassed only by Frs. Groenings, Reinsch, Glaser and Brother Kiel. Built present Church of St. Ann. Eight years to build because they advanced only according to money on hand. Cornerstone laid August 25th, 1878 and Church completed and consecrated May 16th, 1886. Built also Convent and Rectory on Watson Street. Installed new organ. Expanded school with eleven new classrooms.

Fr. William Kockerols, S.J. (1888-1889) — Bought new stations. Installed new bells: St. Ann's Bell (7780 lbs.), St. Joachim's Bell (3840 lbs.), St. Joseph's Bell (1016 lbs.), St. Mary's Bell (1780 lbs.), St. James Bell (1482 lbs.), St. George's Bell (460 lbs.). Established Confraternity of St. Ann in our Parish entitling St. Ann's to all spiritual privileges in union with Arch-Confraternity of St. Anne de Beaupre.

Fr. William Roether, S.J. (1889-1891) — Established St. Vincent de Paul Society. Purchased famous stained glass windows of present Church from Munich.

Fr. Joseph Kreusch, S.J. (1891-1896) — Founded St. Agnes Sodality and St. Stanislaus Sodality, St. John Berchman's Altar Boys' Society, Branch 121 of L.C.B.A. Bought stained glass windows for transept and eight small statues for Main Altar (still on the Altar); frescoed entire body of Church; installed present oak confessionals; built present Shrine Altar to St. Ann; constructed Baptismal Font in Gothic style in keeping with the style of entire Church; renovated marble flooring of Sanctuary; installed tower clock; set up ten huge statues over pillars in Church (five representing Fathers of the Church and five representing Founders of Orders.) Tore down old church and adjacent school for boys and erected present school called "Palatial" by many. Building cost $107,000 and through the generous manual help from parishioners the structure was completed within a few months. During building of school the classes were held in new Church with drawn curtains separating classes. In this construction much credit must be given Fr. Groenings, S.J., the untiring assistant at St. Ann. Gentlemen of the Parish engaged in this work were Messrs. Baldus, Nicholas

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Niederpreuem, Hiemenz, Hock and Louis Kirchmeyer. All Sodalities celebrated silver jubilee of their canonical foundation. First bazaar in history of Parish. Despite recession the extraordinary sum of $11,000 was realized.

Fr. William Becker, S.J. (1896-1898) — Established Society of Child Jesus to help poor children with books and tuition. Founded Society of St. Elizabeth for needy widows and orphans in Parish.

Fr. Theodore Hegemann, S.J. (1892-1902) — Founded Dramatic Circle and started the parish "Anna Bote."

Fr. Francis X. Neubrand, S.J. (1902-1903) — Organized the "Arbeiter Verein."

Fr. Victorine Sheppach, S.J. (1903-1909) — most flourishing time of parish. Enrollment in school and all Sodalities greatest in number. Established the St. John Berchman's Alumni (still flourishing and active); and Ladies' Auxiliary of Knights of St. John. Celebrated the golden jubilee of Definition of Immaculate Conception of our Lady, golden jubilee of parish and silver jubilee of his ordination. Started parish of St. Joachim and handed it to Diocese in 1905. Built boys' sacristy, electric plant, greenhouse; enclosed passageway from the Rectory to Church; furnished the stone pillars in Church with Gothic Capitals; wainscoted the lower walls of sanctuary, transept and side altars with marble. New electric burned for first time on Easter Sunday, 1904; equipped main and side altars with hundreds of small electric starlights; repainted entire interior of Church; placed twenty-one paintings and twenty-six statues in various places in church; paved school yards and equipped school with electric lights; purchased famous merry-go-round for picnics and founded St. Francis School Association to collect money pledged to defray expenses of improvements. St. Ann's now passed from control of German Jesuit Province into that of the American New York-Maryland Province.

Fr. George Krim, S.J. (1909-1913) — Established Angel's Sodality for school children. Silver Jubilee of Church. New schedule in school to conform to requirements of Regents of New York. Established St. Ann Musical Society. Dramatic Circle had membership of two hundred actors.

Fr. Peter Leonard, S.J. (1913-1916) — Obtained full set of gold vestments. Pews were revarnished; organ repaired and furnished with electric blower. Repainted classrooms and installed up-to-date toilets in school.

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Fr. Augustine Miller, S.J. (1916) — Served as Pastor only eighteen days. Called to new post as Instructor of Jesuit Tertian Fathers at Poughkeepsie.

Fr. Joseph Kirkmyer, S.J. (1916-1918) — First son of St. Ann to hold this office. Established St. Ann School of Business.

Fr. Herman Adelmann, S.J. (1918-1921) — Golden jubilee of all Sodalities. Serious gas explosion in electric plant seriously injured Bro. Brombrach. Fire in western part of Church beneath roof. Opened St. Rose of Lima Home for working girls.

Fr. Bernard Cohausz, S.J. (1921-1924) — Repaired Church damaged by fire and bought the Sturm building.

Fr. Herman Maeckel, S.J. (1924-1929) — Tridua in honor of North American Martyrs, St. Peter Canisius, St. Aloysius and the French Martyrs of the Blessed Sacrament. Introduced perpetual Novena in Honor of St. Ann; Introduced independent troop of Boy Scouts; Golden Jubilee of Knights of St. John; Redecorated entire Church. Improved lighting with lanterns in church and equipped cafeteria in the school.

Fr. Gustave Reinsch, S.J. (1929-1930) — administrator from death of Fr. Maeckel until appointment of Fr. Cohausz. Silver Jubilee of priesthood of Frs. Reinsch and Wolfe and St. John's Berchman's Alumni.

Fr. Bernard Cohausz, S.J. (1930-1936) — Diamond jubilee of Men's Sodality; Golden Jubilee of Fr. Nelles; Sudden end of "Anna Bote"; Enlarged kitchen in rectory; Noted confessor of Diocesan priests.

Fr. Paul Coniff, S.J. (1936-1940) — Established the CYC; Founded the Confraternity of the Rosary; installed loud speakers in the Church; placed Shrine of North American Martyrs in Church; repaired roof and towers of church; installed modern automatic mechanism in tower clock and gas blowers in vestibule.

Fr. Joseph Taylor, S.J. (1940-1944) — Golden Jubilee of Frs. Reinsch and Stedler as Jesuits; Diamond Jubilee of Fr. Cormican; 400th anniversary of establishment of Society; Introduced the Holy Hour; removed the superfluous statuary which interfered with the lines and simplicity of the Church's architecture; washed walls and ceiling of church; installed comfortable kneelers. End of St. Rose of Lima Home (transferred to Diocese). New floor in auditorium for weekly roller-skating; new boilers and automatic stokers in school. Instituted Child Care Organization for children of workers in war plants.

Congratulations and continued success to St. Ann's in their Centennial Year and in many years to come.

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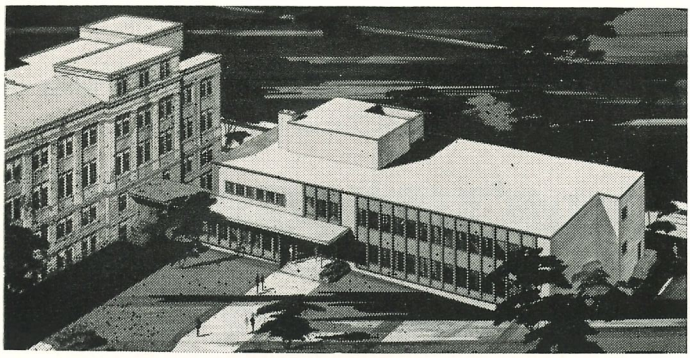
Fr. Alfred Rudtke, S.J. (1945-1949) — Painted recory and interior of school. Installed automatic boilers in church. Started the P.T.A. Business School transferred to Bishop McMahon High School.

Fr. Stanley Curtin, S.J. (1949-1955) — Repaired weakened parts of western tower of church. Parish census. Relic of Arm of St. Francis Xavier brought to St. Ann.

Fr. Jerome Kleber, S.J. (1955-) — New sign for services placed on buttress of church; ceiling of church insulated; built ushers' room and crying room for babes brought to Mass by parents; toilets installed in vestibule; washed and redecorated entire church; cleaned and revarnished pews; tiled floor; repaired windows and obsolete wiring in church; changed lighting system to eliminate glare and installed new furnace. In rectory installed new water tanks and refrigeration unit; puttied windows and painted Chapel. In school . . . tiled all floors and painted interior; installed new furnace and blowers in auditorium; renovated meeting rooms; replaced corroded cornices with copper drains; replaced brick wall in school yard with cyclonic fence. Centennial celebration of parish; Parish census.

Many of the improvements mentioned above were of a material nature in order to enhance the Shrine of St. Ann. Omitted were the thousands of hours employed in round the clock labors for the spiritual growth of the parishioners. Needless to state all this steady progress would not have materialized without the enthusiastic work of the Christlike Assistants assigned to parish work at St. Ann's. How many hours these saintly crusaders for Christ sat patiently in the rectory offices to impart uplifting, consoling and Christlike advice; how many hours they listened in the confessionals to unite the sinner in reconciliation with Christ; how often they poured the waters of salvation at the Baptismal Font; how often they re-enacted Calvary at the wood-carved altars and Shrine; how many marriages were witnessed; bed-ridden visited and anointed; how many instructions imparted to those seeking the Truth; all these beads shine in the one hundred years' Rosary of brilliant performance in the Service of Christ. No wonder St. Ann earned the city-wide reputation for being so good to those seeking help. From Fr. Schneider to Fr. Suter, from Frs. Kramer and Henke to Frs. Hogenborst and Groenings, from Frs. Truemper, Gudenus and Neumueller to Frs. Osterrath, Gmeiner and Kessel, from Frs. Cormican and Stedler to Frs. Bunse, Wolfe and Reinsch, and to those laboring today as Assistants . . .



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the parishioners in St. Ann's and the faithful in the Diocese of Buffalo past, present and to come owe a thankful and spiritual debt, the enormity of which is known only to God. In labors hidden from the eyes of so many these stalwart crusaders of Christ kept their sights on Christ the True Victory, leading and beckoning the sinner and the saint, the ill and the healthy, the happy and the afflicted, the weakling and the daring, onward to press ever forward in gigantic spiritual strides towards Him Who is not only the Alpha but also the Omega of all existence. We might almost state them in the words of St. John, "Many other things they did; but if every one of them should be written, not even the world itself I think could hold the books that would have to be written."

To thank the Sisters and Lay Teachers in mere words would be to express a pitiable inadequacy. Human thanks does not commensurate and balance the equation of their selfless labors. No wonder they look to God for appreciation, for He is their Ideal in their work. What would be lacking had they not sacrificed themselves within these four small walls can only be surmised when God reveals to us on the last day what they actually did accomplish. No wonder the adults return to the Halls of St. Ann's and speak with a catch in their throats of the good ole days when they were fortunate enough to be under the guiding tutelage of those whose motto was "Suffer the little children to come to Me" and "Be ye imitators of me as I am of Christ."

A sin of omission would be ours were we to neglect to mention the stalwart and truly Catholic Parishioners imbued with the apostolicity of Catholic Action who caught fire from the burning zeal of the priests and who spent their days and nights in joyful and generous service for the glory of God in spreading the Name and Life of Christ into the lives of others in the Parish. We do not mention their names for fear of hurting by omission. Returning home tired from work they sacrificed their evenings for the good of the parish. Thankless and often unappreciated was their work; but suffice it to say that the God of Reward has not and will not forget them. To thousands He has already proclaimed from His Heavenly Throne, "Well done, Faithful Servant. Now let Me show you the eternal reward which I prepared for you because you professed My Beloved Son so loyally and faithfully on earth." A parish is an organic unity in the Mystical Body of which Christ is the Head and these parish minded souls are some of the cells which form this healthy unit. Without them the parish would be dead. Without them the parish could not produce much fruit. They have seen the light and elected to spend generously of their time and labors in the service of their parish for the glory of God. Wisely did they choose. May God bless them most abundantly as He promised.

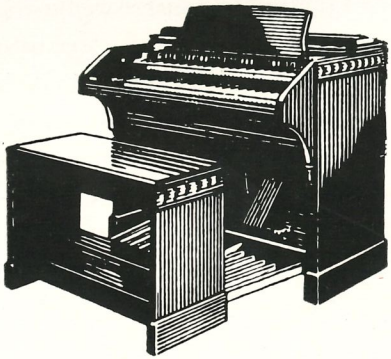
THE HAMMOND ORGAN

AND CAMEO PIANO

Played by

George Hacker
George Malinowski

Lee Mueller
Francis Sitterle



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1858 — Fr. George Schneider, S.J.
1862 — Fr. George Foertsch, S.J.
1864 — Fr. Michael Haering, S.J.
1867 — Fr. John Hackspiel, S.J.
1870 — Fr. Peter Schnitzler, S.J.
1870 — Fr. Aloysius Suter, S.J.
1870 — Fr. George Hieber, S.J.
1871 — Fr. Joseph Fruzzini, S.J.
1872 — Fr. Hermann Richard, S.J.
1874 — Fr. William Graffweg, S.J.
1874 — Fr. William Roether, S.J.
1874 — Fr. Philip Meschenmoser, S.J
1876 — Fr. John Ming, S.J.
1876 — Fr. Henry Boehmer, S.J.
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1882 — Fr. James Groenings, S.J.
1882 — Fr. Otto Hogenborst, S.J
1884 — Fr. George Hieber, S.J.
1886 — Fr. Godfrey Friderici, S.J.
1886 — Fr. Henry Wochner, S.J.
1887 — Fr. Francis Breymann, S.J
1888 — Fr. Henry Bochmer, S.J.
1889 — Fr. William Roether, S.J
1890 — Fr. William Truemper, S.J.
1890 — Fr. Charles de Gudenus, S.J.
1891 — Fr. Aloysius Sigg, S.J.
1891 — Fr. Matthias Neumeuller, S.J.
1892 — Fr. Francis Breymann, S.J.
1893 — Fr. William Festenberg de Pakiseh, S.J.
1894 — Fr. George Hieber, S.J.
1894 — Fr. Otto Hogenforst, S.J.
1897 — Fr. Sebastian Huber, S.J.
1898 — Fr. Leo Osterrath, S.J.
1898 — Fr. Justin Bendermacher, S.J.
1899 — Fr. Louis Buchholtz, S.J.
1900 — Fr. John B. Schmandt, S.J.
1900 — Fr. Bartholomew Gmeiner, S.J.
1900 — Fr. John B. Kessel, S.J.
1903 — Fr. Alexandersvon Ascheberg, S.J.
1903 — Fr. Anthony Hartmann, S.J.
1903 — Fr. Hermann Elskamp, S.J.
1904 — Fr. Gustave Reinsch, S.J.
1906 — Fr. John Bergert, S.J.
1907 — Fr. Charles Jannsen, S.J.
1908 — Fr. James Rockliff, S.J.
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1909 — Fr. Joseph Offergeld, S.J.
1910 — Fr. Frederick Strerath, S.J.

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1911 — Fr. Clement Alten, S.J.
1912 — Fr. Alphons Weiss, S.J.
1915 — Fr. Henry J. Nelles, S.J.
1915 — Fr. Charles Gisler, S.J.
1918 — Fr. Bernard Pohlmann, S.J.
1918 — Fr. Anthony Hoehne, S.J.
1918 — Fr. Joseph Faber, S.J.
1919 — Fr. John L. Assmann, S.J.
1920 — Fr. Henry Wolff, S.J.
1921 — Fr. Hermann Maeckel, S.J.
1924 — Fr. Bernard Widenhues, S.J.
1924 — Fr. Francis X. Munding, S.J.
1924 — Fr. Frederick Bunse, S.J.
1925 — Fr. Henry J. Nelles, S.J.
1925 — Fr. Peter Leonard, S.J.
1926 — Fr. Joseph Hueffner, S.J.
1929 — Fr. Patrick Cormican, S.J.
1931 — Fr. Richard Martin, S.J.
1932 — Fr. William F. X. Sullivan, S.J.
1933 — Fr. Julius McGehee, S.J.
1934 — Fr. William A. Glaser, S.J.
1934 — Fr. John A. Stedler, S.J.
1937 — Fr. Maurice Miller, S.J.
1938 — Fr. Francis X. Weiser, S.J.
1940 — Fr. Ralph A. Sturzer, S.J.
1940 — Fr. Reinhold Dorge, S.J.
1941 — Fr. Florian Frankenberger, S.J.
1941 — Fr. James J. Ball, S.J.
1942 — Fr. John J. Butler, S.J.
1942 — Fr. Mark Shalvoy, S.J.
1946 — Fr. Raymond Lutz, S.J.
1946 — Fr. Martin Zillig, S.J.
1947 — Fr. Daniel Turbett, S.J.
1950 — Fr. Ernest Hartnett, S.J.
1952 — Fr. Anthony L. Leisner, S.J.
1954 — Fr. Genero Casolaro, S.J.
1954 — Fr. Thomas Quilty, S.J.
1954 — Fr. Anthony G. Schirmann, S.J.
1955 — Fr. Aloysius J. Kelsch, S.J.
1957 — Fr. Gilbert Schmid, S.J.

Brothers who have served at St. Ann's:

Bro. Halfmann, S.J.
Bro. Volkwein, S.J.
Bro. Ritter, S.J.
Bro. Kiel, S.J.
Bro. Brombach, S.J.
Bro. Herr, S.J.
Bro. Keashen, S.J.
Bro. Metzger, S.J.

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and
DAUGHTER JOANNE

MR. & MRS. ANTHONY H. NOWICKI
and
SON JOHN

MR. & MRS. RAYMOND SCHAEFER
and
DAUGHTER DIANE

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on your

100th Birthday

Mr. & Mrs. William Merz

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MIAMI, FLORIDA

VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD AND TO THE RELIGIOUS LIFE

SECULAR PRIESTS

Name	*Ordained*	*Diocese*
The Rev. George Glauber	1877	Omaha
The Rev. Joseph Fischer	1888	Buffalo
The Rev. Michael Krischel	1890	Rochester
The Rev. John Kiefer	1900	Buffalo
Rt. Rev. Msgr. F. C. Neissens	1904	Texas
The Rev. John Belzer	1911	Denver
The Rev. John Dambach	1913	Wichita
The Rev. Louis Kiefer	1916	Buffalo
The Rev. Clarence Hohorst	1928	Buffalo
The Rev. Eugene Radon	1947	Buffalo
The Rev. Clarence Dye	1953	Buffalo

FRANCISCANS	*Entr.*	*Prof.*	*Ordin.*
Fr. Ludgerus Joseph Glauber	1875	1880	1882
Fr. Rufinus Anthony Glauber	1918	1922	1925
Br. Christopher Anthony Hugenschmidt	1895	1899	.....

REDEMPTORIST			
Fr. William Kessel, C.S.S.R.	1878	1879	1883

JESUITS	*Entr.*	*Vows*	*Ordin.*
James Schuessler, S.J.	1882	1884	1890
Francis X. Sindele, S.J.	1887	1889	1899
Joseph Haas, S.J.	1891	1893	1901
James Paulus, S.J.	1891	1893	1901
Peter Bogenschuetz, S.J.	1892	1894	1907
Francis X. Manhardt, S.J.	1892	1894	1907
Joseph Kirkmyer, S.J.	1893	1895	1908
Philip Burkert, S.J.	1893	1895	1907
Valentine Hormes, S.J.	1893	1895	1907
John A. Stedler, S.J.	1893	1895	1907
Gregory Derschug, S.J.	1896	1898	1911
Joseph Hueffner, S.J.	1902	1904	1917
Charles Schmidt, S.J.	1903	1905	1919
John Frisch, S.J.	1908	1910	1921
Emeran J. Kolkmeyer, S.J.	1911	1913	1924
Edward S. Poulthier, S.J.	1911	1913	1924
Anthony J. Bleicher, S.J.	1913	1915	1927

William A. Glaser, S.J.	1914	1916	1927
John G. Setter, S.J.	1914	1916	1927
Anthony N. Glaser, S.J.	1918	1920	1931
Hugh J. Bihler, S.J.	1918	1920	1929
Edward J. Reiser, S.J.	1920	1922	1933
Gustave A. Weigel, S.J.	1922	1924	1932
Harold A. Pfeiffer, S.J.	1924	1926	1937
Florian A. Frankenberger, S.J.	1925	1927	1937
Jerome J. Kleber, S.J.	1926	1928	1939
Leonard G. Hacker, S.J.	1938	1940	1947

	Entr	*Vows*
Mr. John Haas, S.J.	1882	1884
Mr. William Schmitt, S.J.	1908	1910
Mr. Nicholaus G. Stahl, S.J.	1918	1920
Bro. Francis Michalowski	1889	1891
Bro. Michael Haberman	1894	1896
Bro. Michael Goergen	1909	1911
Bro. Edward A. Bauerlein	1911	1913
Bro. Joseph A. Henle	1927	1929
Bro. Joseph N. Wolf	1935	1937

BENEDICTINE	*Entr.*	*Prof.*	*Ordain.*
Fr. August Francis Wirth	1895	1899	1912

SOCIETY OF DIVINE WORD	*Entr.*
Nelson Ryan	1954

SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS OF PENANCE AND CHRISTIAN CHARITY

Family Name	*Religious Name*	*Entr.*	*Prof.*
Teresa Schmidt	Sister M. Antonia	1876	1878
Barbara Preis	Sister M. Elizabeth	1876	1878
Mary Glauber	Sister M. Aegidia	1877	1879
Magdalen Ott	Sister M. Stanislaus	1877	1879
Caroline Winter	Sister M. Dominica	1881	1883
Anna Berend	Sister M. Aloysia	1881	1883
Margaret Frank	Sister M. Alphonsa	1882	1884
Susan Schmidt	Sister M. Francisca	1882	1884
Catherine Friol	Sister M. Loyola	1882	1884
Teresa Loch	Sister M. Anna	1883	1885
Catherine Wolf	Sister M. Teresa	1884	1886
Eva Krischel	Sister M. Pacifica	1884	1886
Christine Rienhals	Sister M. Adelgonde	1885	1887

Mary Wiot	Sister M. Seraphine	1885	1887
Rose Haas	Sister M. Michaele	1885	1887
Anna Haas	Sister M. Veronica	1885	1887
Mary Frank	Sister M. Raphaele	1886	1888
Joanna Albrecht	Sister M. Gabriele	1885	1887
Henrietta Geuting	Sister M. Hilaria	1886	1888
Mary Friol	Sister M. Antonine	1886	1888
Margaret Enders	Sister M. Petra	1886	1888
Barbara Schmitt	Sister M. Ludgera	1886	1888
Frances Becker	Sister M. Perpetua	1885	1887
Elizabeth Haid	Sister M. Leonie	1886	1888
Margaret Friol	Sister M. Magdalen	1888	1890
Catherine Gittere	Sister M. Anselma	1888	1890
Mary Weidner	Sister M. Claudia	1889	1890
Martha Klein	Sister M. Eusebia	1890	1892
Mary Huttere	Sister M. Ursula	1892	1894
Mary Terheggen	Sister M. Ludgera	1893	1895
Elizabeth Wintringer	Sister M. Clementine	1893	1895
Catherine Michels	Sister M. Justine	1895	1897
Barbara Rackel	Sister M. Monica	1896	1898
Mary Haas	Sister M. Gottfrieda	1896	1898
Margaret Burkert	Sister M. Renata	1896	1898
Elizabeth Hirschbeck	Sister M. Ancilla	1896	1898
Catherine Schmidt	Sister M. Constantia	1896	1898
Anna Van Kell	Sister M. Cortona	1897	1899
Mary Rebhan	Sister M. Beata	1897	1899
Catherine Franz	Sister M. Aemiliana	1897	1899
Bertha Oehler	Sister M. Annunciata	1899	1901
Elizabeth Preis	Sister M. Solana	1898	1900
Mary Schramm	Sister M. Irene	1900	1902
Mary Haller	Sister M. Alexandra	1901	1903
Caroline Dingboom	Sister M. Carola	1901	1903
Anna Metz	Sister M. Husebia	1902	1904
Martha Volland	Sister M. Ursula	1901	1903
Anna Hoelscher	Sister M. Theophila	1902	1904
Louise Volland	Sister M. Auxilia	1903	1905
Antoinette Biehler	Sister M. Adelheid	1904	1906
Mary Gittere	Sister M. Louise	1905	1907
Margaret Goergen	Sister M. Prudenta	1906	1908
Catherine Schaller	Sister M. Scholastica	1907	1909
Lena Haas	Sister M. Henrica	1908	1910
Pauline Lerchemueller	Sister M. Placida	1908	1910
Genevieve Armbruster	Sister M. Thuribia	1908	1910
Helen Gentner	Sister M. Francisca	1909	1911
Catherine Clair	Sister M. Afra	1909	1911
Hedwig Frainier	Sister M. Eveline	1910	1912
Gertrude Manhart	Sister M. Amabilis	1910	1912

Anna Glaser	Sister M. Rufina	1910	1912
Louise Bonnes	Sister M. Rolanda	1910	1912
Helen Schmidt	Sister M. Regis	1911	1913
Lena Luibel	Sister M. Amanda	1910	1912
Mary Bleicher	Sister M. Majella	1910	1912
Anna Stoessel	Sister M. Gemma	1911	1913
Joanna Friedl	Sister M. Casimir	1911	1913
Caroline Strot	Sister M. Serafiia	1912	1914
Ella Hark	Sister M. Anita	1912	1914
Theresa Gentner	Sister M. Thecla	1913	1915
Cecilia Strauss	Sister M. Marciana	1913	1915
Anna Zenner	Sister M. Ewalda	1913	1915
Louise Seyfried	Sister M. Florentia	1917	1919
Genevieve Reinboldt	Sister M. Madeleine	1924	1926
Jenny Henle	Sister M. Rosaria	1924	1926
Clara Schmidt	Sister M. Charles	1925	1927
Gladys Henle	Sister M. Alberta	1926	1928
Dorothy Eller	Sister M. Stanislaus	1928	1930
Marie Stahl	Sister M. Adele	1930	1932
Margaret Kirsch	Sister M. Clarence	1934	1936
Rose Faso	Sister M. Josella	1934	1936
Bernadine Haupt	Sister M. Lorraine	1934	1936
Rhea Jane Dalton	Sister M. Cordella	1934	1936
Mary Ann Huebsch	Sister M. Maurice	1934	1936
Josephine Haupt	Sister M. Joachim	1935	1937
Anna Schmidt	Sister M. David	1935	1937
Virginia Eller	Sister M. James	1936	1938
Esther Koerner	Sister M. Marcella	1939	1941
Mary Kramer	Sister M. Nanette	1938	1940
Julia Hausler	Sister M. Lucy	1938	1940
Barbara Ide	Sister M. Alma	1939	1941
Mary Jane Seitz	Sister M. Magdalen	1940	1942
Anita Reichmuth	Sister M. Anthony	1944	1947
Dolores Golpl	Sister M. Aquinas	1945	1947
Rita Fuest	Sister M. Phyllis	1952	1954
Rita Siemieniecki	Sister M. Claude	1952	1954
Julia Maxwell	Sister M. Angelica	1956	1958
Edna Winkelman		1958	.....

SISTERS OF THE THIRD ORDER OF ST. FRANCIS (PINE STREET)

Mary Manhardt	Sister M. Admirabilis	1893	1896
Barbara Geisen	Sister M. Margaret Mary	1895	1898
Elizabeth Geisen	Sister M. Alacoque	1896	1899
Frances Mueller	Sister M. Isidore	1896	1899
Clara Pfeiffer	Sister M. Emilia	1900	1903
Rose Stadler	Sister M. Franzina	1909	1912

Anna Anetzberger	Sister M. Dolorosa	1910	1913
Mary Myers	Sister M. Bonita	1910	1913
Rose Brecker	Sister M. De Chantal	1911	1914
Charlotte Manhardt	Sister M. Dolorosa	1912	1915
Helen Setter	Sister M. Agnes Marie	1914	1917
Mary Schwab	Sister M. Inez	1920	1923
Balbina Poorten	Sister M. Paula	1924	1927
Rose Schwab	Sister M. Eunice	1929	1931
Margaret M. Lassen	Sister M. Marie Reine	1936	1939

SISTERS OF OUR LADY OF CHARITY (GOOD SHEPHERD SISTERS)

Barbara Schmidt	Sister M. Anthony	1868	1871
Barbara Wutz	Sister M. Presentation	1870	1873
Magdalen Grad	Sister M. Jesus	1870	1873
Catherine Grad	Sister M. St. F. Xavier	1872	1875
Magdalen Bauer	Sister M. of St. Bruno	1877	1880
Elizabeth Reuter	Sister M. St. Fran. Xavier	1883	1886
Teresa Rackl	Sister M. Philomena	1890	1893
Christine Zenner	Sister M. Ann	1893	1896
Elizabeth Rackl	Sister M. Infant Jesus	1893	1896
Mary Dietz	Sister M. St. Stanislaus	1896	1899
Mary Rackl	Sister M. St. Anthony	1900	1903
Elizabeth Manhardt	Sister M. St. Fran. Borgia	1903	1906
Mary Cath. Wetzel	Sister M. Agatha	1916	1919
Florence Wallenhorst	Sister M. St. Gerard	1912	1914

POOR CLARES

Barbara Eberle	Sister Frances	1883	1885
Bertha Hugenschmidt	Sister Hyacinth	1909	1911

SISTERS OF THE THIRD ORDER REGULAR OF ST. FRANCIS OF ALLEGANY

Catherine Foster		1910	1912

SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH

Amanda Reiber	Sister M. Leonardo	1917	1919
Emma Wick	Sister M. Salome	1923	1925

GREY NUNS OF THE CROSS

Dora Ewart	Sister M. Elderaeda	1908	1910

SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME

Mary Gwandt	Sister M. Veronica	1895	1897

DAUGHTERS OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY (NARDINS)

Mary Zech		1870	1872
Mary Propster		1870	1872

SISTERS OF THE THIRD ORDER OF ST. FRANCIS (PITTSBURGH)

Agatha Kiefer	Sister M. Bonaventure	1871	1873

DOMINICAN SISTERS OF THE PERPETUAL ROSARY

Mary C. Wilhelm	Sister M. Margaret of the Trinity	1943	1946

SOCIETY OF ST. MARY

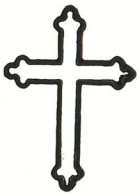
Theresa Bleicher	Sister M. Ignatia	1936	1939

SISTERS OF ST. MARY DE NAMUR

Rita Pfaff		1956	.....

SUMMARY

Secular Priests	11
Priests of Religious Orders	27
Members of Religious Orders Studying for Priesthood	4
Brothers of Religious Orders	6
Sisters	145
Total	193



ACTIVE ORGANIZATIONS IN PARISH TODAY

Parent-Teachers Association	Moderator, Rev. Jerome J. Kleber, S.J. President, Mrs. Eleanor Galley
Knights of St. John	Moderator, Rev. Jerome J. Kleber, S.J. President, Mr. A. Gavacs
Bishop's Committee	Moderator, Rev. Aloysius Kelsch, S.J. Chairman, Mrs. Louis Germann
Young Ladies' Sodality	Moderator, Rev. F. J. Frankenberger, S.J. Prefect, Miss Carol Mueller
St. John Berchman's Altar Society	Moderator, Rev. F. J. Frankenberger, S.J. President, Jerome Herrmann
St. John Berchman's Alumni	Moderator, Rev. F. J. Frankenberger, S.J. President, Mr. Clarence Honer
L.C.B.A., Branch 121	Moderator, Rev. W. A. Glaser, S.J. President, Clara Thries
Ladies' Auxiliary	Moderator, Rev. J. J. Kleber, S.J. President, Clara Thries
C. Y. C.	Moderator, Rev. A. L. Leisner, S.J. President, Miss Barbara Lehman
Cub Scouts	Moderator, Rev. T. J. Quilty, S.J. Scoutmaster, Mr. Lucian Galley
Boy Scouts	Moderator, Rev. T. J. Quilty, S.J. Scoutmaster, Mr. E. Bernhard

Explorers	Moderator, Rev. T. J. Quilty, S.J. Scoutmaster, Mr. George Braun
Girl Scouts	Moderator, Rev. T. J. Quilty, S.J. Scout leader, Mrs. J. Dispenza Chairman, Mrs. E. Grandits
Scout Mothers	Moderator, Rev. T. J. Quilty, S.J. Chairman, Mrs. Siegrist
Married Ladies' Sodality	Moderator, Rev. G. Reinsch, S.J. Prefect, Mrs. F. Niederpreuem
St. Vincent de Paul Society	Moderator, Rev. G. Reinsch, S.J. President, Mr. E. Bernhard
B. C. C. M.	Moderator, Rev. J. J. Kleber, S.J. President, Mr. F. Metzger
Holy Name Society	Moderator, Rev. A. G. Schirmann, S.J. President, Mr. F. Metzger
Apostleship of Prayer	Moderator, Rev. A. G. Schirmann, S.J. Chairman, Miss Gladys Smith
Ushers Club	Moderator, Rev. J. J. Kleber, S.J. President, Mr. F. X. Sitterle
St. Ann's Men's Club	Moderator, Rev. J. J. Kleber, S.J. President, Mr. Raymond Oswald
St. Ann's Dramatic Club	Moderator, Rev. J. J. Kleber, S.J. President, Mr. Richard O'Donnell
St. Ann's Altar Society	Moderator, Rev. G. Reinsch, S.J. Chairman, Miss A. Bonnas

CURIA PRAEPOSITI GENERALIS
SOCIETATIS IESU
ROMA - Borgo S. Spirito, 5

September 4th, 1958

Rev. Father Jerome J. Kleber, S.J
Superior — St. Ann's Church
Buffalo, U.S.A.

Reverend Fathers, dear Brothers, and Friends,

On this joyous occasion, the centennial year of Saint Ann's Parish, it is a privilege to send my paternal blessing to all the Fathers and Brothers of the Society, who are laboring so unstintingly for the glory of God and the salvation of souls within its confines; I am also happy to extend my congratulations and best wishes to each and every member of the Parish who has made this historical occasion such a memorable event. It is with a keen sense of consolation and gratitude to God that you look back and review at this time the magnificent growth of the Catholic Church in Buffalo. Just eleven years after the erection of the Buffalo Diocese your Parish was founded. Your centennial celebration then will rightly include a grateful tribute to all the Bishops and Priests who have dedicated their lives that the Faith of Christ the King may burn bright in the hearts of the people of Buffalo. Like the good sower in the Gospel story the seed of the Faith that was zealously planted by the early Missionaries has brought forth a rich and abundant harvest of souls.

May the joy and blessedness of this celebration, therefore, never fade from your lives; may the love of God wax ever stronger in your hearts; may you always carry with you and live the Gospel of Christ that shall come before you as a splendid vision; a light to your footsteps; a strong staff to your hands and a star that illuminates your way and guides you safely to your home, the vision of God.

And may Saint Ann obtain for each one of you the graces and blessings you desire and keep you close to the divine Son of Mary Immaculate.

Sincerely in Our Lord,

J. B. Janssens, S.J.
General of the Society of Jesus

VATICAN CITY

Office of the Secretariat

Reverend Jerome J. Kleber, S.J.
Saint Ann's Church
371 Watson Street
Buffalo, New York

On the happy occasion of the centennial year of Saint Ann's Parish in Buffalo, New York, His Holiness, Pope Pius XII, with paternal affection, bestows His Apostolic Blessing on all the Priests and Parishioners.

Given at Vatican City, in the Palace of the Vatican, this 30th day of August, 1958.

✠

PIUS XII

Pope

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PROGRAM OF CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Sunday, September 14th — Mass and Anniversary Holy Communion of all those who received their First Holy Communion in St. Ann's fifty years or more ago, followed by breakfast in school cafeteria. Sermon by Rev. Gustave Reinsch, S.J.

Sunday, September 14th — 8 P.M. In Upper Hall. Social gathering of all past students of St. Ann's.

Sunday, September 21st — Solemn Pontifical High Mass sung by His Excellency, Bishop Joseph A. Burke, D.D., Bishop of Buffalo. Choir of former members of St. Ann's Choir and organist will be Mr. Hans Hagen.

Sunday, September 21st and 22nd — Centennial Festival in school yard.

Monday, September 22nd at 8:30 — Mass for children and young at St. Ann's Parish.

Tuesday, September 23rd at 8:30 — Mass for all Priests, Brothers, and Sisters past and present of St. Ann's.

Wednesday, September 24th at 8:30 — Solemn Mass of Requiem for all Deceased of St. Ann's.

Thursday, September 25th at 8:30 — Mass for all the Sick and Aged of St. Ann's.

Friday, September 26th at 8:30 — Mass of Thanksgiving to God for blessings past and present on St. Ann's.

Friday, September 26th at 8 P.M. — Pageant, "As Time Goes By," presented by St. Ann's Dramatic Club followed by dancing and refreshments.

Saturday, September 27th at 8:30 — Mass for all the Married People of St. Ann's.

Sunday, September 28th at 10 A.M. — Solemn Pontifical High Mass sung by His Excellency Bishop Leo Smith, Auxiliary Bishop of Buffalo.

Sunday, September 28th at 7 P.M. — Closing of Centennial with Banquet in Upper Hall.

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SOLEMN CELEBRATIONS IN ST. ANN'S PARISH

✝

Mar. 1858 — Cornerstone Laying of Original Church
June 1858 — Blessing and Dedication of Church
July 1858 — First Solemn Celebration of Feast of St. Ann
Aug. 1858 — Solemn Blessing of the First Church Bell
Aug. 1878 — Cornerstone Laying of New Church
June 1883 — Silver Jubilee of Parish
May 1886 — Solemn Dedication and Consecration by Bishop Ryan of the New Church
June 1895 — Solemn Laying of Cornerstone of New School
Nov. 1895 — Solemn Blessing of New School by Bishop Ryan
May 1896 — Silver Jubilee of all Sodalities
Dec. 1905 — Silver Anniversary of Ordination of Fr. Sheppach
Aug. 1908 — Golden Jubilee of Parish
June 1911 — Silver Jubilee of New Church
May 1921 — Golden Jubilee of All Four Sodalities
Aug. 1924 — Golden Jubilee of Knights of St. John
Sept. 1928 — Golden Jubilee of Cornerstone Laying of New Church
Sept. 1930 — Golden Jubilee of Fr. Patrick Cormican as Jesuit.
April 1931 — Diamond Jubilee of Married Men's Sodality
Sept. 1931 — Golden Jubilee of Fr. Henry Nelles as Jesuit
Dec. 1940 — 400th Anniversary of establishment of Society of Jesus
Sept. 1941 — Golden Jubilee of Fr. Reinsch as a Jesuit
Oct. 1943 — Golden Jubilee of Fr. Stedler as a Jesuit
Sept. 1954 — Golden Jubilee of Ordination of Fr. Reinsch
Nov. 1957 — Golden Jubilee of St. John's Berchman's Society
May 1958 — Diamond Jubilee of Knights of St. John
SEPT. 1958 — SOLEMN CENTENARY OF ST. ANN'S PARISH

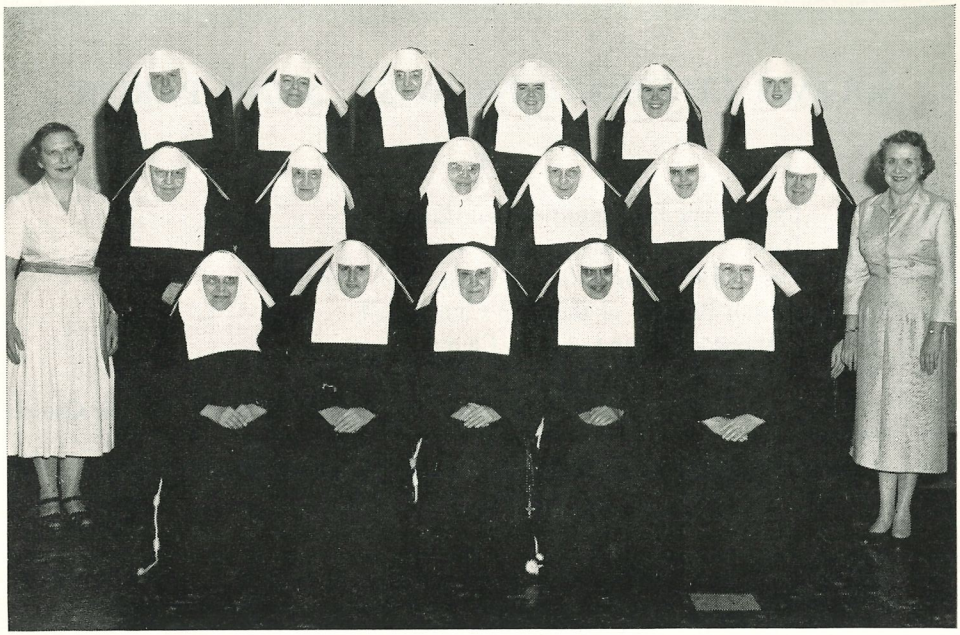
SPIRITUAL EVENTS AT ST. ANN'S

There were 14 Missions conducted in St. Ann's
There were 12 retreats conducted in St. Ann's Parish
There were 19 special Tridua held in St. Ann's

SPIRITUAL MINISTRATIONS

From 1858 until 1957 there have been:

26,303 baptisms
6,502 marriages
12,680 funerals



PRESENT FACULTY

SAINT ANN'S SCHOOL

ST. ANN'S SCHOOL

St. Ann's had three schools in succession. The first formed a part of the old church building, so that the church, the parochial residence and the first school were under the same continuous roof and formed one structure. The first school faced Watson Street.

In 1863 the Jesuits purchased the lots which now form the northern schoolyard and on this site built an additional school. We know that as far back as 1884 it housed 1200 children in fourteen classrooms.

In 1886, with the completion of the present Church, the original church on Emslie was converted entirely into a girls' school while the new school of 1863 contained the classrooms for the boys.

In 1895 the original building of 1858 and the more recent building of 1863 were torn down while Fr. Kreusch erected the present St. Ann's parochial school called by so many "Palatial." It was built mainly with the generous help of parish hands, within a few months, at the cost of $107,000. During its erection classes were held in the present church with drawn curtains separating the classrooms. No doubt many people today in Buffalo can recall the days they attended class in the present church.

St. Ann's also established a school for one year in the district of Buffalo called "Hydraulics." The purpose was to ensure the safety of younger children by making it unnecessary for them to cross the numerous parallel railroad tracks that passed through Emslie Street. The school lasted only one year and later the property was given to Sacred Heart Parish.

The structure today is 239 feet long, 66 feet wide and 90 feet high. It contains twenty-four classrooms, basement meeting rooms, cafeteria, and an auditorium formerly used by College and pro-basketball teams.

St. Ann's also opened a school in 1902 in St. Joachim's Parish, but handed this over to the Diocese in 1905. It seems certain too that in 1884 an annex was erected on Goodyear Street for the pupils of St. Ann's church who lived too far from St. Ann's Parish. Very little is known concerning it and apparently it was shortlived.

Improvements in school building:

1904 — Electric lighting installed
1906 — Both yards paved with concrete
1910 — New stage fixtures, scenery, drop-curtain, switchboard
1913 — New sanitary toilets
1915 — Terrazzo floors laid at entrances of school
1917 — New floor in auditorium
1925 — Cafeteria constructed
1929 — New boilers
1937 — Cafeteria enlarged, lighting in classes improved, gas-blowers
1941 — Skating floor laid
1943 — Two new boilers with automatic stokers
1944 — North schoolyard covered with blacktop
1954 — P.A. system installed
1956 — School painted, floors tiled
1958 — Schoolyard wall replaced with cyclonic fence; cornices replaced with copper gutters; new converted gas furnace to replace broken furnaces.

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TEACHING STAFF

In 1858 Mr. Henry Lohman was the sole teacher in our school. In the following year he was assisted by his wife. In 1860 this wedded pair left and a Mr. Breitung appears on the scene as the teacher of the boys, while the Nardins were engaged to teach the girls. Mr. Breitung was followed by the strict disciplinarian, a Mr. Goetz, for the boys. In 1872 Fr. Bellwalder, S.J. was indeed fortunate in obtaining what proved to be the very long and most fruitful services of Mr. Joseph Kiefer as beloved teacher and organist for our school and parish. In 1874, in order to have the children of the school employ the entire use of the German language, the Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity were engaged to supplant the previous educational work of the Nardins. These Sisters have taught in our classrooms since. Registration seems to have reached its peak with 2156 children in 1900. The Principals of St. Ann's school were:

1858-1859	Mr. Henry Lohman
1860-1874	Miss Celestine Schottmueller
1874-1907	Mother M. Hieronyma
1907-1919	Mother M. Augustine
1919-1920	Mother M. Alphonsia
1920-1922	Mother M. Leopholdina
1922-1928	Mother M. Basilia
1928-1931	Mother M. Jerome
1931-1937	Mother M. Blanche
1937-1940	Mother M. Ida
1940-1943	Mother M. Laocadia
1943-1949	Mother M. Pius
1949-1955	Mother M. Rosaria
1955	Mother M. Madeleine

GLIMPSES

Do you know that Fr. Cormican, S.J., who served a few years past as Assistant of St. Ann's was born in 1858 four days before the Cornerstone of the original Church on Emslie St. was laid?

Do you know that from 1899 to 1905 St. Ann's school had more pupils than the largest parochial school in the entire Diocese of Buffalo today?

Do you know that in 1900 St. Ann's School registration was 2156?

Do you know that Mr. Frank Sitterle of 8 Grey Street has collected more money in St. Ann's Church than any other parishioner in its history?

Do you know that St. Ann's Parish has had more Pastors (29) than any other large parish in the Diocese of Buffalo?

Do you know the Jesuits were established in Williamsville before they came to St. Michael's and St. Ann's?

Do you know that the Fathers of St. Ann carry the Blessed Sacrament into the homes of the sick and aged of the Parish to the number of more than 40 a month?

Do you know that we treasure the possession of four ecclesiastically attested relics of Good St. Ann?

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TEACHERS' RESIDENCE

There was no teachers' residence at the foundation of the school. From 1858-1869 the pupils were taught by lay-teachers exclusively and we have no means of knowing where they lived. It seems certain that they did not live on any immediate ground or land of the Church. The first residence of Sisters scarcely deserves the name of convent. As far as we can ascertain it was a little house prepared for them by Fr. Fritsch near the church and school. However, from the very outset the rapid growth of the school demanded more teachers than this home could accommodate and the home was abandoned with the result that the Sisters commuted daily from their Academy on South Division Street later located on Franklin and Church Streets.

When the Franciscan Sisters took charge they first resided in a small private house on Emslie Street. We know neither the owner nor the exact location of this house. In 1885 in junction with the Church and the new Rectory Fr. Roether also built a convent on its present site. In 1895 a new wing on the Northwest corner was added. The ground occupied by the convent and the large plot behind it extending to Watson, as well as the convent itself, does not belong to the parish, but to the Sisters. Heat, water and light is supplied by the parish. The rest of the convent must be supported by the Sisters themselves on the very small salary they receive for their tremendous efforts in the classrooms.

PARISH CEMETERY

St. Ann's parish never had a cemetery of its own. In the beginning the deceased were buried in a churchyard of St. Louis facing Edward Street. Later a change was made to St. Mary's cemetery. This cemetery seems to have been located on North Street between Johnson and Sherman Streets. Soon, through a bitter misunderstanding, St. Ann's returned to the cemetery of St. Louis. On February 21, 1859, the four German Parishes, viz., St. Ann's, St. Michael's, St. Boniface's, and St. Louis and the French Parish of St. Peter's joined with St. Mary's on Broadway and Pine and met to discuss the purchase of land for a German-French Roman Catholic Cemetery. The men representing St. Ann's were Michael Bork, Matthias Wirth, Joseph Diebold and Adam Hiemenz. The site chosen was the present land in Pine Hill. Hence St. Ann's is represented on the Board of Directors of this Cemetery.

The Sisters of Saint Francis of Penance and Christian Charity offer to all Saint Ann's parishioners prayerful congratulations on the occasion of their centenary.

GLIMPSES

Do you know that St. Ann's is the only church in the country to produce two sons who rose to the exalted office of Supreme President of all the Knights of St. John in America, viz. former Mayor Francis X. Schwab and in office today General Peter F. Schwab?

MR. and MRS. FRANK BROWN

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OLDEST LIVING MEMBERS IN ST. ANN'S PARISH

The following have been baptized at St. Ann's, have always been and are still members of St. Ann's:

Name	*Address*	*Born*
Miss Louise Friol	310 Adams Street	April 2, 1871
Mrs. Theresa Meidel	180 Grey Street	May 26, 1871
Miss Theresa Morlock	183 Grey Street	June 19, 1875
Miss Ursula Huber	112 Johnson Street	November 9, 1875
Mrs. Theresa Habermehl	375 Sherman Street	July 26, 1876
Mrs. Mary Schuller	33 Strauss Street	October 25, 1876
Mrs. Theresa Vogel	207 Peckham Street	December 18, 1876
Mrs. Josephine Lauser	395 Emslie Street	June 28, 1877
Miss Anna Sturm	661 Broadway	July 26, 1877
Mrs. Anna Ferron	245 Sherman Street	October 22, 1877
Mrs. Catherine Otto	639 Broadway	December 7, 1877
John Bierl	292 Coit Street	February 4, 1878
Miss Anna Huber	112 Johnson Street	April 17, 1878
Mrs. Barbara Schaefer	253 Stanton Street	November 7, 1878
Miss Lillian Schwier	426 Emslie Street	December 12, 1878

The following holy parishioners are the oldest living today in our Parish although they were not baptized in St. Ann's.

Mrs. Regina Kneipp	567 Fillmore Avenue	September 7, 1860
Mr. Frank X. Sitterle	8 Grey Street	October 21, 1861
Mrs. Mary Mayer	609 Sycamore Street	April 13, 1865
Mr. Bernard Fechter	36 Johnson Street	November 15, 1866
Mrs. Ellen Barrett	283 Stanton Street	June 21, 1866

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DESCRIPTIVE FACTS ABOUT THE CHURCH

The exterior dimensions are as follows: length, 228 feet; width 88 feet. The height of the nave in front of the church from the base to the roof ridge is 100 feet. The height of the eastern tower including the cross is 225 feet; the height of the western tower is 180 feet.

The interior dimensions are: the nave or central aisle is 38 feet wide; either side aisle is 18 feet wide. Hence the total width of the interior is 74 feet. The interior length is 216 feet. The sanctuary is 74 feet wide and 33 feet deep. The transept is 30 feet wide and 102 feet long from east to west. The height of the nave is 70 feet, while the foundations are 11 feet and the buttressed walls are 7 feet of limestone reinforced with steel. The entire structure is in the style of the middle age European Gothic Church.

The High Altar, dedicated to St. Ann, is a magnificent Gothic structure carved of well-seasoned wood. Its central tower rises to the height of 32 feet, while its sides, with harmonious combinations of turrets, fitly point to the greater beauty of the towering center. On festive occasions it glitters in the dazzle of 235 electric stars that exalts and invites the onlooker to join in praise of Him Who dwells within its Tabernacle. Six angels minister at the altar and the Saints of God have also six representatives, viz., on the Gospel side we have St. Joachim, St. Ignatius of Loyola, and St. Francis Xavier and on the Epistle side we have St. Ann with St. Aloysius on her right and St. Stanislaus on her left. Five groups of hand carved reliefs adorn the front of the altar below the mensa; the "Paschal Lamb," "Abraham's Sacrifice," "the Last Supper," "the Manna," and the "Office of Melchisedech." The five oil paintings behind the main altar and below the five art windows are the work of a Chicago artist, executed under the direction of the late Mr. Gottfried Frohe and recently retouched by the D'Arcangelo Art Studio. From left to right they represent "The Return of the Prodigal Son," "Jesus the Friend of Children," "Inspired Angels, Singing and Harping to the Eucharistic Jesus," "The Holy Family" and "The Agony in the Garden." On the Walls of the sanctuary facing each other high above the arches are two famous oil paintings — Gebhard Fugel's "Miraculous Draught of Fishes" and the same Master's "Last Supper." Two other oil paintings representing the "Promise of the Primacy" and the "Vows of the First Jesuits" grace the transept walls high above the arches facing the nave of the Church. On the transept walls on the opposite side are the two round oil paintings of St. Stanislaus and St. John Berchman.

In the nave of the church we find the famous ten statues, five of them representing founders of Religious Orders and St. Francis Xavier, the great Apostle of India and four representing Doctors of the Church. The oil-painted Medallions above the statues represent the twelve Apostles. The exquisitely stained windows of the nave beginning from the rear of the Gospel side to the rear of the Epistle Side profess the dogmas of the Apostles' creed. The eight lower windows of the transepts represent scenes from the life of the Holy Family; while the five upper windows in the east transept and the five upper windows in the west transept and the five windows of the sanctuary . . . fifteen in all . . . recall to mind scenes from the Legend of Saints Ann and Joachim.

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